

LAST WEEK'S
AVERAGE DAILY SALE
465,000

No 63,072

6 This is the clearest possible case of deliberate attempted suicide . . . the union knows the result is inevitable

All-out strike threat as NUS assets seized

● Mr Justice Michael Davies ordered the seizure of the £2.8 million assets of the National Union of Seamen and imposed a fine of £150,000

● Five hundred dockers at Dover, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, are to vote this week on whether to support the seamen

● Last night one of four sequestrators from a City firm arrived at the union's headquarters to begin stripping the NUS of all its assets

By Tim Jones, David Sapat and John Spicer

The seamen and their union supporters appeared last night to be on a collision course with the Government as members of the transport union at Dover threatened to close the port after the seizure by the High Court of National Union of Seamen's assets.

Mrs Thatcher, speaking in the Commons, pledged to uphold the right of strike-breaking seamen to go to work. She said: "Everyone has a right to go to their place of work without let or hindrance."

Immediately after Mr Justice Michael Davies had ordered the seizure of the union's £2.8 million assets and imposed a fine of £150,000 for the clearest case of deliberate attempted suicide.

Mr Sam McCuskie, NUS general secretary, threatened to spread the Dover-based strike to British ships throughout the world.

National strike appeal...2

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Mr McCuskie in a pensive mood at the ACAS offices yesterday. Photograph: James Gray

2,000 Israeli troops on Lebanon guerrilla hunt

From Juan Carlos Guzmán, Sidon, and Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israeli troops, supported by tanks and helicopter gunships, were hunting for Palestinian guerrillas in the occupied territories (Ian Murray writes). The new deaths bring the total of those killed in nearly five months of disturbances to 180.

Jerusalem - Three Arabes were shot and killed yesterday in clashes between demilitarised Israeli troops in the occupied territories (Ian Murray writes). The new deaths bring the total of those killed in nearly five months of disturbances to 180.

Lebanon to find any accomplices of the groups at the end of last week, the Israeli Army was ordered to put on a show of strength to try to ram home the message that it was dangerous to collaborate with

Twice within twenty-four

Labour's poll tax charge

Tories 'afraid of the figures'

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

The Government was accused yesterday of being afraid to release the latest figures about the costs of the community charge for fear of torpedoing Conservative hopes in tomorrow's district council elections.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, said that if the public knew the facts "the Tory Party would have to write off the English boroughs as they have Wales and Scotland."

The Prime Minister said that figures had been published for Scotland because the introduction of the community charge was that much nearer than in England.

The amount to be paid would depend very much on local authority spending over the time and if charges were high, it would probably be because of left wing town hall extravagance.

Earlier at a London press

now, is that fees will be charged on a "no win no fee basis."

Under this, the fees for claims up to about £10,000 will roughly correspond to those now charged by solicitors in personal injuries cases, and according to the scale used when claims are negotiated with insurance companies which then pay the fees.

From £10,000 to £50,000, he expects to take 15 per cent of the damages; from £50,000 to £100,000, a cut of 12.5 per cent and with claims negotiated of more than £100,000, a cut of 10 per cent. "The levels are nothing like those of 30 to 40 per cent charged by American lawyers", he said.

Mr Lefevre said that people were often unable to obtain legal aid to pursue such claims; and where they

IRA put bomb under car at UK army base

By Michael Evans and Richard Ford

The IRA switched its new terror campaign against British servicemen to West Germany yesterday by placing a bomb under a soldier's car at the Army barracks at Bielefeld.

The bomb, weighing 1 kg, was discovered during a security check on all vehicles prompted by the murder of three RAF servicemen in two towns in The Netherlands.

It had been feared that there might be further IRA attacks and yesterday there were indications that the terrorists responsible for the bombing and shooting incidents in The Netherlands may have crossed over into West Germany.

Bielefeld, which is east of Dortmund in the central region of West Germany, is the headquarters of 1st British Corps of BAOR.

An Army bomb disposal team there used a controlled explosion to deal with the device. A further alert was sent out to all bases.

In the search for the IRA killers who carried out the attacks in The Netherlands, West German border paramilitary police disclosed yesterday that they were following a new lead. "We know what we're looking for, or the kind of thing we are looking for", a spokesman for the police in Bonn said. "I can assure you we're not running around aimlessly."

Earlier in the House of Commons, Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, promised a full review of the security of all service personnel and their families, particularly those in married quarters.

Mr Younger said steps had already been taken to strengthen security for British forces in

West Germany and The Netherlands.

Yesterday as two Scotland Yard experts began their examination of the bombed car which killed two RAF men in The Netherlands, Mr Ian Stewart, the Minister of State for the Armed Forces, flew to

Search intensified...2

Germany to check on the extra security measures being taken at the British bases.

Mr Stewart spoke to senior military commanders at RAF Wildenrath before going to the hospital at Wegberg to see two of the injured servicemen, Senior Aircraftman Ian Lewis and Richard Garth and their relatives. Both men are still seriously ill.

Mr Stewart spent a few minutes with Senior Aircraftman Garth, aged 22, from Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, who escaped with a bullet wound in the shoulder, and also saw Senior Aircraftman Ian Lewis, aged 19, from Anglesey, who was still under sedation after an operation to amputate a foot.

Condemning the murder of the three RAF men, Mr Younger said they were a "further manifestation of the callous barbarism to which the IRA and its supporters and sympathisers are prepared to stoop."

He said the victims were "off duty, non operational, in civilian clothes and were in The Netherlands for purely recreational purposes. They posed no threat to anyone and their murder is nothing short of a crime against decency and humanity."

As part of the review of

Continued on page 24, col 1

Strike-hit Gdansk yard sealed off

From Richard Bassett, Gdansk

Polish police sealed off the area around the strike-hit Lenin shipyard here yesterday.

Scores of police equipped with riot gear patrolled the streets preventing journalists and others from getting close to the shipyard where some 2,000 workers are on strike, according to opposition sources. I was stopped with other colleagues as we threaded our way past delapidated housing near the yard in an attempt to reach the gates. Despite the ominous forces gathering outside these are still festooned with Solidarity banners, pictures of the Pope and flowers echoing

the struggle of 1980.

It was here that Solidarity was born and where the banned movement's leader, Mr Lech Walesa, has determined to make his stand against the Government's reform programme. The programme, strikers say, has

Warsaw ultimatum...8

eroded living standards through price increases.

Mr Walesa's words to the strikers last night certainly had a martial tinge to them. "If the tanks come let them," Mr Walesa said, adding that

Continued on page 24, col 2

WIN
£58,000

Portfolio
PLUS NEW
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● The Portfolio Accumulator fund stands today at £58,000. Portfolio offers two chances: the daily prize of £4,000, or — if your number is higher than the daily total — the contents of the Accumulator fund.

● Yesterday's winners: page 3

INSIDE

THE TIMES
RACING
SERVICE

● Yesterday The Times Racing Service, the most complete and authoritative of racing guides, was launched — and already there have been more than a thousand inquiries.

● The service provides all the up-to-the-minute information needed by racing followers. Every racing day it carries a preview of the day's programme by Mandarin (Michael Phillips) and a rapid results and commentary service. Details: page 45

Plus . . .

INGENUITY

● There are prizes worth more than £13,000 to be won with INGENUITY, a new daily game devised to test your general knowledge and powers of detection. See page 13

INDEX

European rule will hit British football clubs

European football administrators yesterday announced an important rule change involving the number of "foreign" players whom clubs will be allowed to field in UEFA competitions.

The decision, taken by UEFA in St Andrews, to impose a limit of four such players could have far-reaching implications for cosmopolitan

sides such as Liverpool, Manchester United and Rangers.

From the start of next season, clubs competing in the three European tournaments can field no more than four players who are not qualified to represent that club's country of origin at international level.

Report, page 48

Scots lawyer launches 'no win no fee' challenge

By Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

A Scottish solicitor has set up a company through which he intends to take on personal injuries and accident cases using the American-style arrangement of "no win, no fee".

The move by Mr Frank Lefevre, an Aberdeen solicitor, is the first attempt by a lawyer to circumvent professional prohibitions on contingency fees and as such is likely to provoke a considerable stir.

Yesterday, Mr Lefevre, one of the most successful lawyers in the north east of Scotland, said he had set up Quantum Claims — Compensation Specialists Ltd, to be known as Quantum, so that he could offer a specialist service to clients.

He is spending £25,000 in promoting the scheme on Scottish television, press and radio and, if it is successful, may set up a similar company in England, possibly with other personal injuries lawyers.

"In the last five years — part of the 25 years of practice on my part — I have come more and more to deal with personal injuries and damages claims. And so far as Scottish practices are concerned, it appears there is a need for a specialist service."

His company, of which he is the sole director, will offer accident victims the "same kind of service" and negotiate the same kind of settlements, that he would normally do, but the difference, which Mr Lefevre acknowledges is a "radical departure from what the legal profession does

now", is that fees will be charged on a "no win no fee basis."

Under this, the fees for claims up to about £10,000 will roughly correspond to those now charged by solicitors in personal injuries cases, and according to the scale used when claims are negotiated with insurance companies which then pay the fees.

From £10,000 to £50,000, he expects to take 15 per cent of the damages; from £50,000 to £100,000, a cut of 12.5 per cent and with claims negotiated of more than £100,000, a cut of 10 per cent. "The levels are nothing like those of 30 to 40 per cent charged by American lawyers", he said.

Mr Lefevre said that people were often unable to obtain legal aid to pursue such claims; and where they

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on winning

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The Crime Writers' Association

for his outstanding

contributions to the genre

of crime fiction



NEWS ROUNDUP

Snatched baby hunt stepped up

Police intensified their hunt for a woman who posed as a store detective to abduct a girl aged five months as concern grew last night for the safety of the baby.

The woman spent 10 minutes with the mother of Natalie Horrell and described her as a "lovely baby" before snatching her and disappearing in crowds of shoppers at a department store in Cardiff on Monday.

Det Supt John Williams, head of South Wales CID, said it appeared the abduction was carefully planned as the woman changed her appearance to look younger and removed her fingerprints from a pushchair. Police fear that the woman, who was aged about 40 and wore thick-rimmed glasses and a headscarf, may have had emotional problems.

Mrs Margaret Horrell, aged 32, of Caeprilly, Mid Glamorgan, who appealed for the safe return of her baby, said: "The woman wasn't very well dressed... I said she didn't look much like a store detective, but she told me that she wasn't supposed to."

Five Legion victims

At least five people are known to have contracted Legionnaires' disease in and around BBC Broadcasting House, central London, and 15 suspected cases are being investigated, doctors said last night. Dr Deirdre Cunningham, medical officer for environmental health for Westminster, said that anyone who had recently been near Portland Place and who developed a chest infection in the next week or so should contact their GP. Doctors who suspect Legionnaires' disease among their patients have been asked to telephone 01-927 5338/5339 or 5340. A cooling tower on the main BBC building had been eliminated as a source, Dr Cunningham said.

Spectrum, page 13

Sect given £175,000

A computer analyst yesterday admitted he had given £175,000 to the Church of Scientology over the past 17 years. Adrian Hayman, aged 38, of Woodhill Lane, Ashurst, West Sussex, told Tunbridge Wells Bankruptcy Court in Kent that he had paid 57,000 dollars for articles signed by the cult's founder, Mr Ron Hubbard. But Mr Stephen Hailey, the official receiver, told Judge Birks that the articles were "almost worthless". Mr Hayman was said to owe £109,000. His public examination was concluded as well as that of his wife, Jocelyn, who owed £13,500.

£100,000 deaf award

Martin Toogood, aged 15, who was left completely deaf after being treated with an antibiotic spray 14 years ago, was awarded £100,000 damages in the High Court in London yesterday. The spray contained the drug neomycin, the court was told. The boy was found to be deaf three years after treatment between January and April 1974 at the Lister Hospital, Stevenage, for scalds he sustained at the age of 15 months. The agreed damages and costs of the hearing are to be paid by Hertfordshire Area Health Authority, which denied liability.

Spy charge remand

An art dealer, believed to be a Czech, who is accused of a spying offence, was remanded in custody for four weeks yesterday at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, central London. Erwin van Haarlem, aged 43, of Silverbirch Close, Friern Barnet, north London, is accused of breaching section 7 of the Official Secrets Act 1920 by doing an act preparatory to the commission of an offence under the Official Secrets Act, 1911. The charge was amended slightly from the one he faced when he was remanded for four weeks on April 5.

Rowntree train goes

The "Chocolate Drop Express" which ferries workers between the Rowntree sweet factory and York railway station is closing. Hundreds used to take the 330-yard trip from the main station but demand dropped as staff turned to buses and cars. Only about five passengers regularly catch the train to and from Rowntree Halt. British Rail applied last August to close the branch line.

Search intensifies as anti-terror men move in

From Richard Owen, Roermond and Stewart Tandler, London

British anti-terrorist experts yesterday began helping Dutch police with their examination at the sites of last Sunday's murder of three British airmen on the Dutch-German border.

Senior experts in West Germany and The Netherlands hinted that the hunt for the IRA killers — or killer — was moving after initial slow progress.

Mr Frederic Korthals-Altes, the Dutch Minister of Justice, said he believed that the killers could have fled from The Netherlands to West Germany. At the same time officers of the West German Border Guards were quoted as saying that possible leads were emerging. "We know the kind of thing we are looking for," a border guard spokesman said. "We are not running around aimlessly."

Police and army authorities refused to elaborate further but the hunt for the killers was intensifying

as the British police team — an explosives expert from Special Branch and a member of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist unit — began examination of the car which blew up in Nieuw Bergen early on Sunday morning.

Sources said the British, Dutch, Belgian and West German intelligence services were pooling their information on terrorist suspects in Europe, in accordance with recently established EEC procedures.

The Dutch police yesterday denied that The Netherlands — especially Amsterdam — offered a "safe haven" for IRA sympathisers. Sgt Harry Clabbers, the Dutch police spokesman, said that the Netherlands, contrary to British press reports, was experienced in dealing with the terrorist threat.

Mr John Patten, the Junior Home Office Minister, who is visiting the Netherlands said yesterday, after talks with Mr Korthals-Altes, that the Dutch were grateful for British

help, especially in the "tricky" area of forensic evidence.

Mr Patten agreed that the culprits could be well clear of the Netherlands by now, although he also speculated that they — or he — could have gone to ground in a "safe house".

Dutch police yesterday eliminated a theory that the terrorists had made a getaway in a brown Corvete. Yesterday the two men injured in the Roermond shooting, Richard Girth and Ian Lewis, were still at the RAF hospital in Wegberg, West Germany. Andrew Kelly, is in a hospital near Nieuw Bergen and still in serious condition, though stable.

Today a memorial service will be held at Nieuw Bergen for the men who died.

Scotland Yard has sent one of its most experienced terrorist investigators to join the Dutch police. The detective, from the Yard's anti-terrorist branch, is a specialist in

collecting and cataloguing possible forensic clues at the scenes of bombings and shootings.

The officer, who has not been identified by the Yard, is immensely experienced who has worked on a number of major cases including the IRA attack on the Grand Hotel at Brighton in 1984. Classified as an "exhibits officer" he specialises in sifting through wreckage for possible clues, organizing forensic work and correlating the results.

His value will be that he will know the sort of components found in IRA bombs and pick them from the debris, when they might be overlooked as nothing more than insignificant rubbish.

One anti-terrorist expert said yesterday, "The exhibits officer is a key man in the investigation". With years of experience behind him he can quickly link evidence from one attack with other incidents in the past.

After attacks in London Yard teams have spent days searching for evidence using a carefully organized process of collecting material. In Brighton the search went on for weeks involving the collection of 5,000 bins of material marshalled by exhibits officers.

Scotland Yard fingerprint experts and scientists have played a crucial part in securing convictions in bomb attacks thanks to prints found on debris after bomb attacks. Identification of debris could also provide important intelligence on the make-up of the bomb which might help detectives uncover the team behind the attack.

The second officer sent to Holland is an intelligence officer from the Irish desk at Special Branch. He will give the Dutch the latest information on the movement of the IRA on the Continent probably acting as a link with MI5 which has mounted operations over the years to watch the IRA in exile.

CAA reports big drop in air miss tally for last year

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

The Civil Aviation Authority yesterday claimed a big drop in the number of reported air misses involving commercial aircraft, even during the peak summer months.

It said that the number of commercial air transport aircraft involved in risk-bearing incidents in the four months to August last year was 0.8 for every 100,000 hours flown, compared with 2.7 in the corresponding period of the preceding year.

The figures confirm the authority's often repeated assertion that, despite the recent spate of publicity surrounding air misses, they are falling in number.

In the quarter to August, normally the busiest and therefore the time when incidents are most likely to occur, the Joint Airmiss Working Group was asked to investigate 24 reported cases of aircraft apparently straying too close.

Of those, 22 were found to bear no risk of collision, two involved a possible risk of collision and in none of the reported cases were they able to find a definite risk of collision.

The authority's statistics do not, however, include the air misses reported this year, some of which appear to have

been more serious than any reported last year and of which one, now being investigated by the Department of Transport's Air Accident Investigation Branch, brought two aircraft within 50 ft of each other.

The pilot of a tiny delta-winged microlight is still being sought by police and aviation safety officials, a year after he flew illegally above the Houses of Parliament and nearly caused a mid-air collision with a British Airways Boeing 737 passenger jet on its way to Heathrow airport.

Extensive inquiries to trace the brilliant blue machine with a bright flashing strobe light on top have so far failed. The incident, which came to light in the first published report of the Joint Airmiss Working Group, took place in May last year.

The report says: "A blue micro-light with a red strobe light was eventually traced but the pilot denied being in the airmiss vicinity, claiming he was flying in the Sevenoaks area at the time."

Mr Rod Clarke, an instructor at the Medway Microlight School based at Southend, Essex, said: "If anyone involved with our school had been found to do this he would be instantly grounded."

Prince's inner-city plea

By Alan Hamilton

The Prince of Wales told 100 British and American businessmen at a London conference yesterday that they should be investing in the quality of life.

Speaking at an international summit meeting at Lancaster House on the role of private enterprise in regenerating the inner cities, the Prince said that companies should be investing in the quality of life, because a reaction against the frenetic pace of competitive life was becoming more and more evident. He expected the business community to do something about it.

The Prince, who is president of Business in the Community, and who has been criticized by some Conservative MPs for sticking his toe in the political water, gathered up two formidable allies yesterday for his inner cities campaign: President Reagan and Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

The President sent a videotaped message praising the Prince's efforts and the Prime Minister, in a brief personal appearance, applauded businessmen who invested in their local communities.

Businessmen at the one-day conference had been brought together by Business in the Community and its nearest American equivalent, the President's Office of Private Sector Initiatives, to discuss the role of private sector help for inner cities.

The Prince made a particular appeal for more attention to be paid to the north of England, citing the example of the establishment of a northern Tate Gallery in Liverpool. His strongest appeal, however, was for companies to second members of their staff to work on inner city renewal projects.



The Prince of Wales yesterday during the Anglo-American business conference in London (Photograph: James Gray).

What was needed was "a chap who can stir up, motivate and generally enliven, who can lead from the front in areas that have become deeply resigned to hopelessness. They get into a slough of despond, and along can come somebody who can generate hope and optimism. I promise you it makes an enormous difference."

Milne tells of 'BBC's outrageous treatment'

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Mr Alasdair Milne, dismissed last year as director general of the BBC, has spoken for the first time about his "outrageous treatment".

In a 45-minute interview to be broadcast on BBC Radio next week, he criticizes Sir William Rees-Mogg, then vice-chairman of the governors, and Mr Marmaduke Hussey, the BBC chairman, who informed Mr Milne he was being relieved of his job.

Mr Milne, who has written a book about his career at the BBC, says he still does not know the reasons for his sudden removal.

When Mr Hussey arrived at the BBC he had been "very interested" in the much publicized libel pay-out to two Conservative MPs after a *Panorama* programme, "Maggie's Militant Tendency".

Although there had been two "bad" libel actions, that would have been a curious reason to dispense with the services of a director general.

He describes how he saw Mr Hussey after a meeting of the governors. "I went into his office where he was sitting with the vice-chairman, and he said it was going to be an unpleasant interview; he wanted me to leave immediately. It was the unanimous decision of the board."

Mr Milne says that the board had become more political in complexion. "More people of a manifestly conservative turn of mind have been appointed."

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WHATEVER SHAPE YOUR GARDEN'S IN

Appeal to QE2 crew to take action
McCluskie aims for a national strike

By Roland Rind

Seamen working on the QE2, the flagship of the Cunard fleet, were last night sent an urgent plea from Mr Sam McCluskie, general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, to take industrial action "in any form" to support the escalating seamen's dispute.

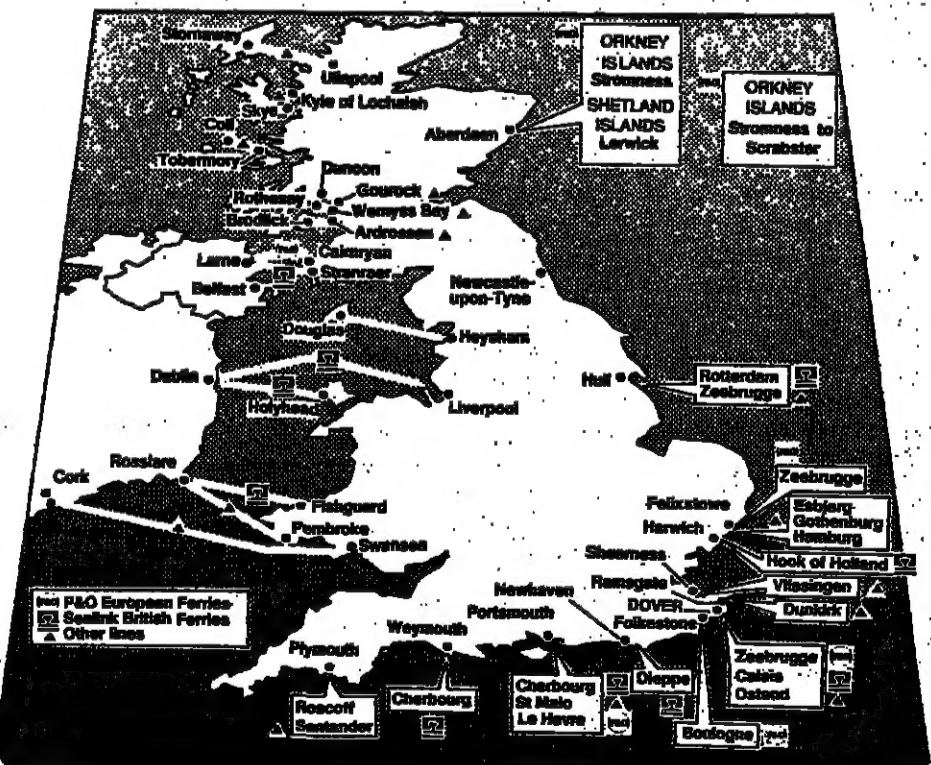
The appeal came as Mr McCluskie made clear he was willing to break the law to spread the strike throughout the country.

Although some ports returned to normal yesterday, the NUS predicted that it would achieve its aim of a national ferry stoppage before the end of the week.

P&O European Ferries were operating a partial service between Dover and Zeebrugge, with the Pride of Kent and the Pride of Bruges. There were no services to Calais or Boulogne.

The company reported a normal service of six sailings a day in each direction on its Belgian-crewed Dover to Ostend route. Its jet-foil was making four trips in each direction.

P&O's Portsmouth services resumed with three return sailings to Le Havre and one return sailing to Cherbourg. There was still no service between Felixstowe and Zeebrugge or between Larne in Northern Ireland and Cairnryan in Scotland.



At Hull, the strike by the crew of North Sea Ferries' Norseas continued but services to Rotterdam and Zeebrugge were being maintained by the company's Dutch-registered vessels.

British-crewed ferries from Felixstowe, Harwich and Ipswich were at a standstill.

Sealink British Ferries, which yesterday won its High Court action to quash the union's assets, reported eight sailings on its Dover-Calais route instead of the normal 16.

After an early meeting of NUS seamen in Portsmouth, Sealink reintroduced its Portsmouth-Cherbourg service. Crews on board the Earl Granville voted overwhelmingly to return to work.

At Harwich, the morning sailing of the Sealink passenger ferry the St Nicholas was cancelled due to strike action, but the Dutch-crewed Konigsa Beatrix sailed as planned.

The NUS said a High Court injunction ordering crews to end sit-ins on two ferries at the Lancashire port of Heysham, and in the Isle of Man, would be ignored.

Attacks on 'yuppie' homes

By David Nicholson-Lord

Police have been alerted after two firebombs were planted on building sites in Wiltshire, apparently in protest at city executives buying expensive houses along the M4 corridor and in the West Country.

A group calling itself the Wessex Freedom Force said in a letter to a local newspaper: "We are starting a campaign of arson attacks on new houses being built in rural areas for yuppies from the city".

Neither device ignited, but Wiltshire police said yesterday they were taking the campaign, which has been linked to the Class War anarchist

group in London, "very seriously".

On Monday, plasterers found a device, described by police as sophisticated, beneath the stairs in an unfinished mews home being built at Worton, near Devizes. An earlier bomb was found in a mechanical digger at Bulkington, near Chippenham. House prices on the sites are up to £130,000.

The group wrote to the *Wiltshire Gazette and Herald* in Swindon: "The building of executive homes in rural areas for yuppies from the cities is forcing local people, especially the young, to move from their

PET STORE OWNER SHOCK

Pet Shop owner, Fred Ripemoff thought he had made a good deal when he sold Smut for £1.99 + VAT a few months ago. Since then Smut has invented the new best selling game called WOOF WOOF and is about to become the world's first canine millionaire. When asked how he felt about this, Fred simply said "Sick". WOOF WOOF is available at under 25p from all good Toy Shops.

Do-it-yourself court proposed to reduce delays and cut costs

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Hundreds of thousands of disputes now pursued in the civil courts will be brought into a new small claims court geared to "do it yourself" justice without lawyers, under new proposals soon to go to the Lord Chancellor.

At the same time it is proposed that lay advisers should have the right to county court trials to present cases for litigants, in the way that they can now do in tribunals.

The proposals are expected to form part of the recently awaited report from the civil justice review body — the climax of more than three years' work and based on 757 responses — due to be published early next month.

The review body, a group of lawyers and laymen under Sir Maurice Hodgson, chairman of British Home Stores, is expected to recommend that the small claims arbitration procedure be made into a new local tier of justice where litigants can bring their own cases before a registrar.

The present level of £500 on claims handled in this way is expected to be doubled to £1,000. This will bring in scores of debt, consumer claims, simple personal injuries and other small claims now pursued uneconomically through the county court.

A housing action, like the small claims procedure, will also be proposed to make it easier for people to pursue housing disputes on such matters as repairs, service charges, and enforcement of obligations under leases and covenants. There will also be a simplified procedure to deal with debt arrears in place of the housing possession action.

The review body is to bring

forward a number of measures amounting to the most sweeping agenda for change in decades in the way civil courts conduct their business.

The measures are intended to reduce the costs, delays and complexity which are the hallmark of civil disputes and a key theme is that cases should be handled at the right level: too many disputes go needlessly to higher courts, the review body believes. Instead, the test should be a case's "importance, substance and complexity" aimed at securing a more efficient use of judge power.

Another proposal will therefore be a large transfer of work now handled by the High Court to the county court. At present the latter can deal only with disputes up to £5,000; this limit is expected to be lifted to about £20,000-£25,000.

The controversial proposal originally floated by the review body in its consultation paper, to merge the county and High Courts has been dropped. It was strongly opposed by the judges and the Bar.

There will not be a general single point of entry to the system for all civil cases, as urged by the Law Society, but the review body is expected to recommend some kind of one-door system for some personal injury cases, possibly under the auspices of Mr Justice Michael Davies, the High Court judge recently put in charge of High Court listing.

The proposal, equally strongly opposed, that circuit judges should reside on circuit, has also been dropped; and there is not likely to be a specific proposal that a judge's

working day should be increased.

But it will suggest more flexible use of the long vacation, and more out-of-hours court sittings.

More High Court judges will be sent on circuit, and the status of both circuit judges and registrars will be enhanced through training in civil work. At present circuit judges are under great pressure to spend time on criminal business.

Another proposal is to group the county courts so that they can provide continuous sittings. At present, if a case lasts more than one day, it has to be adjourned, causing weeks of delay.

There will be a package of measures to improve access to civil justice by the consumer: lawyers will be authorized to conduct certain types of cases at fixed, pre-advised fees. In other cases, they should be told the hourly rates, and be able to set a ceiling on the final bill.

There will be proposals for more specialist panels of lawyers so that people can assess competence.

The review body will call for courts to gear themselves more to the needs of users by providing clearer information. It is likely to propose better links with advice agencies.

There will also be proposals to shorten and simplify court hearings, with full pre-trial exchange of evidence, including non-expert witnesses' statements, and much less written and oral procedure.

To cut delays, lawyers will have strict timetables for bringing cases to trial, and judges would have a more active monitoring role.

Hand feeding saves monkeys



Conservationists at a zoo in The Netherlands have helped to save a rare species of monkey from extinction by breeding in captivity this pair of twin Golden Lion Tamarins.

They were born on February 20 at Noorder Dierpark zoo, Emmen, in north Holland.

Martha and Geeske are 10 cm high and weigh about 100 grams.

This rare breed of dwarf monkey —

fewer than 100 are known to exist in the wild — came from the east coast of Brazil.

"They are as rare in captivity", Mr Henk Hiddingh, a biologist at the zoo, said. "Some years ago, around the 1960s, there were almost none left in the wild. They were facing extinction."

The monkeys, which are bright red, are seen by hundreds of visitors to the zoo and are fed through a syringe by Mr Bart Kradels, who is responsible for the breeding centre at the zoo.

"This is the first time we have been successful in breeding these animals", Mr Kradels said. "In 1986 we got the mother from a zoo in America, and in 1987 the male arrived, also from America." Both monkeys are being fed by hand, using diluted human baby milk powder. A keeper at London Zoo, where there are eight Golden Lion Tamarins, said their breeding programme had been temporarily halted because of its success.

Report, photograph: Stephen Markeson

King's Cross inquiry

Boroughs withdraw over costs refusal

By Paul Vallety

The association representing London's 15 local authorities yesterday withdrew from the inquiry into the King's Cross Underground fire and accused the Government of trying to silence the boroughs who had begun to ask awkward questions about cuts in safety standards.

Mrs Margaret Hodge, chairman of the Association of London Authorities, said that the Government had reneged on an undertaking to pay the costs of the association's lawyers at the inquiry, soon after it raised the issue of how a cut in subsidy had affected safety.

"Our fear is that the loss of £200 million of central government subsidy since 1984 led to corners being cut and may have contributed to the disaster", she said.

"From the start we were given to understand that the Government would pay the reasonable legal costs of all parties to the inquiry as part of Mr Paul Channon's (Secretary of State for Transport) commitment to get to the bottom of the tragedy", Mrs Hodge said.

"Then last week, after we had raised the issue of government funding to London Regional Transport and London Underground Limited, the Treasury Solicitor told us that

The work of London Underground's "buffs" — the women who clean greasy machinery beneath escalators such as the one where the King's Cross fire started — was described yesterday.

The women had an impossible job because of difficulty of access, Mr Gabriel Izienski, lift and escalator maintenance manager, said.

Photographs showed the cleaners crawling, squeezing and stretching through oily machinery running the length of escalator shafts in an ill-lit area below the steps. Conditions were so dirty they wore two pairs of overalls and tied rags over their hair, ankles and safety shoes, he said.

The cleaning methods had now improved. Wooden steps had been removed to allow access from above to the

our legal costs would not be paid."

The association's bill stood already at £100,000, she said. With the inquiry expected to last at least two more months, costs could rise to £250,000. Mrs Hodge has now written to Mr Channon.

Yesterday, she said that the Government's attitude was "utterly irresponsible". Any suggestion that the move was purely to save money could not be squared with the Department of Transport's

running tracks where grease accumulated. Better methods were still being sought.

Until the change, made after the fire, the running tracks had never been cleaned completely, Mr Izienski said. "It would not be feasible."

"In cleaning these tracks from the underside of the escalator, the cleaners undoubtedly did the best they could but could not have cleaned them thoroughly."

Mr Roger Henderson, QC, counsel to the inquiry, said: "May we assume that there was on the running tracks of escalator number four at King's Cross, when it caught fire, grease which had probably been there for a number of years?"

Mr Izienski replied: "I would think that would be the case, yes."

The association had been in the process of pressing that documents be submitted to the inquiry disclosing earlier critical reports on safety and the minutes of meetings at which decisions were taken on the grounds of cost not to halt deteriorations in safety standards. These included reducing escalator maintenance.

Yesterday the Department of Transport said: "We are not aware of any government undertaking to meet costs." No final decision had yet been taken.

the scope of the inquiry, but Mr Fennell ruled it inappropriate and said he was not at present inclined to recommend that the association costs should be met by the Department of Transport.

Mrs Hodge said: "We were completely taken aback. We are the only party to the inquiry to be told that our costs will not be met."

Mr Fennell said he hoped the association would pass on points it wanted raised to the Treasury solicitors so that they could still be considered.

Mrs Hodge later said that the association would now publish its concerns about Underground safety and pass the information it had gathered on to other parties to the inquiry. "But our inability to cross-examine will be a serious limitation to the discovery of the truth."

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Random drink tests sought

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Random breath tests could cut the annual toll of fatal road accidents by 20 per cent, the Royal College of Physicians said yesterday.

Launching a campaign to persuade the Government to introduce random testing, the college said more than 5,500 people died in road accidents every year, costing the taxpayer £27 million a year.

The Department of Transport estimates at least a quarter of these deaths and thousands of serious injuries are associated with alcohol.

Studies in Finland, Australia, Sweden and the United States have shown that random breath testing can reduce deaths, injuries and costs by a fifth, Dr James Dunbar, Dundee police surgeon, said.

Such tests, which would be relatively easy and cheap to introduce, could save up to 1,500 lives and cut health service costs by £7 million a year, he said.

Mr David Yates, senior lecturer in accident and emergency medicine at Manchester University, said the Royal

College of Surgeons was becoming increasingly concerned over the time surgeons spent dealing with preventable injuries.

Between 1am and 2am, 75 per cent of patients in hospital casualty units would be drunk, making it more difficult to treat them.

The Royal College of Physicians said: "Neither education, nor threats, nor treatment has ever been shown to have the same impact as the single measure of introducing random breath testing."

"We wonder why this measure continues to be fudged and/or ignored in government policy."

Dr Dunbar said that the new "Dumbo" driver was responsible for a significant proportion of accidents. The "dangerous, upper-middle class, middle-aged businessman, driving over the limit," was smartly dressed and drove an expensive car.

His chances of being caught were minimal as police were more likely to stop young, less

respectable-looking drivers.

"The present law just does not work. Over 100,000 people are arrested for it every year. Drivers will risk drinking and driving because they recognize that the chances of being caught are at best one in 250."

● Nearly one in 10 of children aged 13 have drunk four points of beer or more on one occasion and one in five have had hangovers, according to a survey published yesterday.

The study, by the Alcohol Research Group at Edinburgh University, shows that almost all that age group had tasted alcohol and 20 per cent had first tasted it before they were eight.

Some 1,600 children were selected in three regions, Highland, Dyfed and Berkshire.

Presenting the findings at a conference in London, Mrs Gellise Bagnall, a research fellow at Edinburgh University, said 1 per cent of the children had experienced more than four hangovers in the past six months.

Survivors of armed raid jailed

The two surviving members of an armed gang which tried to rob a Securix van of £120,000 last July were jailed for 10 and 15 years yesterday in the Central Criminal Court.

Armed police acting on information were waiting when the four attempted the robbery when the van delivered wages to a slaughterhouse in Plumstead, south-east London, the court was told. Two of the men were shot dead.

Yesterday, Derek Whitehead, aged 25, of Samuel Street, Woolwich, south-east London, was jailed for 15 years, and Richard Parfitt, of Kent House Lane, Beckenham, south-east London, for 10. David Bowditch, aged 23, of Dryden Road, Welling, Kent, was jailed for three years for stealing the getaway vehicles used by the gang.

Two families in three are car owners

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Two thirds of British families own cars, and the proportion of the family budget spent on travel has increased by 50 per cent during the past 20 years.

The increase in car ownership, with 44 per cent of families having one, and 18 per cent having two or more, has led to people making more and longer journeys, including journeys to work or school. The distance people travel by local bus has fallen by about a half.

There still appears to be a widespread attachment to owning bicycles, although less enthusiasm for using them. A survey released by the Department of Transport yesterday showed that while one third of households own cycles, only in one third of these households had people used

one during the week of the survey.

The growth in car ownership from 1965 to 1985 produced a 60 per cent increase in total passenger mileage by all forms of surface travel. The total distance travelled annually by car doubled during that period, while bus and coach travel declined by 29 per cent, and rail travel showed only a modest 3 per cent rise.

The National Travel Survey for 1985-86 shows that Britons are still a nation of walkers, although apparently with a preference for short walks, with the distance typically walked by a person per week being under five miles.

While one third of all travel time is accounted for by walking, it yields only a

twentieth of all distance travelled. People living in urban areas walk half as far again as people in rural areas, although country people travelled further by other means.

A third of all journeys were for work or education, a third for leisure, and the remainder for personal business such as shopping. In 1985 a family was typically spending £24.60 a week on travel, accounting for 15 per cent of total household expenditure. About four fifths of this money went on motoring.

Car owners typically travel 124 miles a week, more than four times as far as people in households without cars, and twice as many men as women drive their own cars.

It shows how improvements in the transport infra-

structure, such as the building of motorways and the electrification of railway lines, have reduced journey times, with the rail journey time from London to Edinburgh being reduced by a quarter between 1966 and 1986, and from London to Cambridge by a sixth. Comparable reductions have been achieved for car journeys, with the drive from London to Edinburgh estimated to have been cut by 70 minutes.

The survey is based on information collected from 10,000 households, with each household recording all its travel during a seven-day period, between July 1985 and July 1986.

National Travel Survey: 1985-86. Report, Part 1: An Analysis of Personal Travel (Dr M.J. Collop, Stationery Office, £8.80).

Nemesis arrives for the impulse fare dodgers

By Ruth Gledhill

Fare dodgers stood in the dock yesterday and hung their heads in shame. One girl aged 19 sobbed in court as details of 599 separate offences were disclosed. A City businessman admitted he thought he could get away with it — but his impulse evasion of one fare could threaten his job, he said. A housewife said she did it through sheer stupidity.

All were shocked to find themselves with a fine and a criminal record for what had been, for most, an impulse decision to cheat British Rail of a few pounds.

Nearly half of yesterday's cases at Guildhall Magistrates Court in the City of London were the result of Operation Artful Dodger, which has so far caught more than 4,000 people. The number of fare dodgers caught by British Transport Police this spring

has already passed last year's figures up to August.

Miss Kathryn Holland, aged 19, said before her case came up: "This will ruin my life."

Her case followed a mistake by a British Rail ticket officer who gave her a 14-month instead of a two month season ticket. She failed to report the mistake — but her downfall came when she defaced the ticket to make it last another year.

Yesterday, she pleaded guilty to two fare evasion offences under the 1978 Theft Act and asked for a further 597 to be considered. She left British Rail a total of £3,129.90 out of pocket, was fined £100 and ordered to pay £900 compensation.

Holland, who pays £20 a week for the upkeep of a horse in her father's livery stable in Southend and who earns up to £110 a week as a

temporary secretary, was "under considerable emotional and financial strain", Mr Ian Baker, defending, told the court. Her family did not know of her offence or of her court appearance. "The corrupting element of money is what this case is about", he said.

David Melton, aged 31, a City businessman, had all the money he needed, yet he still took an impulse decision not to pay a single fare of £3.30. Melton, who works part-time in the City and also has his own business, comes from South Humberside. He was ordered to pay £68.30 for attempting to travel without payment under the Regulation of Railways Act, 1889.

After the case he said: "I have never done anything wrong like this in my life before. I just did it on the spur of the moment. I thought I could get away with it. There was no one at the ticket barrier when I got on the train."

Helen Brightwell, from Sudbury in

Suffolk, now earning £9,000 a year, said she committed six offences "because I was broke". Miss Philippa Carslake said her mind "just went blank" when she saw the inspectors, which led her to give a false name and address to the ticket office.

Mrs Pamela Finn, from Grays in Essex, said she had "no intention of fiddling the railway" but nevertheless lied about where she had got on the train when questioned by inspectors. She saved £2.90 but was ordered to pay £117.90.

The Crown Prosecutor, Mr Joseph Sentance, said: "The typical culprit is an 18-year-old secretary from South. Ockendon, earning £80 a week in the City. They just think they can get away with it."

The British Transport police officer at court, Sergeant Peter Montgomery, described it as "a national pastime to fiddle the railways".

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Birthday surprise for twins

A project manager for a building firm, a Civil Servant and a voluntary worker are among the five winners who share the daily Portfolio prize of £4,000.

Mrs Irene Culbert, a housewife and voluntary worker serving meals on wheels, of Granet Lane, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, will be spending her windfall on a birthday treat for her twins, now grown up.

Mr Arthur Tebbutt, a project manager, of Skeffington Close, Geddington, near Kettering, Northamptonshire, said he planned to use some of the money to buy a present for his wife.

Mrs Maria Zaromski, a retired Civil Servant, of Manor Drive, Surbiton, Surrey, said the money did not matter as much as the pleasure and satisfaction she gained from playing the competition.

Mrs Vivienne McGregor, a Civil Servant, of Seaford, East Sussex, said she was delighted with her win, which she plans to save. A previous success in the competition earned her just £2.50.

The other winner was Mr John Lane, of Claygate Avenue, Harpenden, Hertfordshire.



Mrs Irene Culbert

Embassy man fights ruling on passports

The former Irish embassy official in London at the centre of "passports-for-sale" allegations faces extradition to Britain after a High Court ruling in Dublin yesterday.

Mr Justice Barrington said that a lower court was wrong when it freed Kevin McDonald, aged 38, last October.

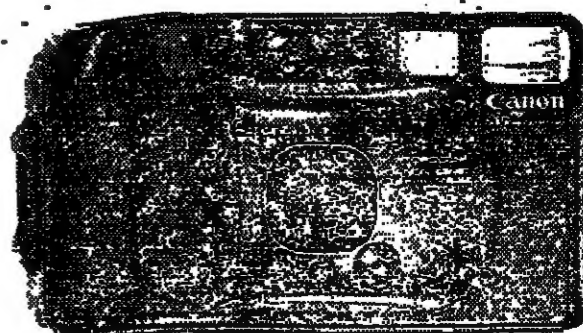
Mr Oliver Macklin, president of the Dublin District Court, ruled then that Mr McDonald should not be sent back to Britain.

Mr McDonald, who has an address at Chiswick in west London, will appeal to the Irish Supreme Court.

Truck inquiry

Police have been called in after £3,500 damage was caused to a huge dumper truck, by removing an oil filter, at the construction site of a tunnel in Conwy, Gwynedd, where 200 workers are on strike.

SHAME ABOUT THE SHOT... SHOULD HAVE SHOT SURESHOT.



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WIMPEY
Breaking new ground.

Owen gives warning on parties' strife threat to centre ground

Labour accuses Ridley of near-dishonesty on rates

By Robin Oakley and Nicholas Wood

The local elections battle yesterday was dominated by charge and counter-charge between the parties on the poll tax.

Mr Peter Brooke, the Conservative Party chairman, said that the community charge was not an issue and was little raised on the doorstep. However, Mr Jack Cunningham, Labour's environment spokesman, accused ministers of concealing the cash impact of the charge for fear of damaging Tory prospects tomorrow, an accusation repeated later in the Commons by Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader.

Meanwhile, Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, encouraged his supporters to vote for the SLD, or Democrats, where there was no SDP candidate, saying that the SDP believed in practising multi-party politics.

"We must not forsake this out of a wish to see the SLD get a bloody nose. The centre ground of British politics is in enough difficulties, most of them self-inflicted, without us deliberately embarking on a policy of self-destruction."

At a London press conference Dr Cunningham said that Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for the Environment, had acted "almost dishonestly" by not publishing tables showing how the present rate rises would translate into poll tax charges for the present year.

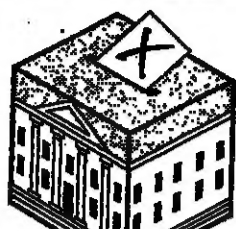
Dr Cunningham, releasing his own set of figures, said that they gave the lie to Tory promises that people would be better off if they returned Conservative administrations.

He pointed to projected poll

tax increases of between 18 and 39 per cent in Tory-controlled councils such as Wokingham, Enfield, Bracknell and Croydon as evidence of how the charge would also affect Conservative-run areas.

Dr Cunningham said: "Nicholas Ridley has refused to publish the figures because he does not want any further embarrassment to the Tory party before the local elections on Thursday."

"The Tories can no longer say, which was never the case



1988 LOCAL ELECTIONS

anyway, that if only you vote Conservative the poll tax will stay down."

The Labour spokesman was citing figures drawn up by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities as background briefing for peers in next week's second reading debate on the Local Government Finance Bill.

He said, pointing out that figures for the 1988-89 financial year had been published by the Scottish and Welsh offices: "I wish Nicholas Ridley had published the figures. I regret that he's prevaricated and almost dishonestly pretended that he doesn't have the necessary information."

Dr Cunningham added that the new figures also showed how the North would lose to the South under the proposed abolition of domestic rates.

Dr Cunningham said that Mr Brooke's claim that the issue was not raised on the doorsteps flew in the face of reality.

Mr Brooke attempted, at an earlier press conference at Conservative Central Office, to play down the importance of the community charge, an indication that the Tory leadership is somewhat nervous about the outcome of tomorrow's elections and is anxious not to have the result seen as a verdict on the proposed replacement for rates.

Mr Ridley said that Labour had refused his challenge to give details of its alternative to the poll tax and he challenged the SLD, or Democrats, on the costs of their chosen alternative of local income tax.

In a letter to Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, who is to lead the SLD attack on the community charge in the House of Lords, Mr Ridley said that they underestimated the revenue they needed to raise and massaged down the London figures with extra grants.

On local income tax a single person on average earnings in North Dorset would pay £302 per year compared with a community charge of £156. Someone in Newbury would pay £452 compared with a community charge of £151 and in Rotherham the figures would be £638 and £252.

Mr Ridley said: "We are the only party with an honest, fair and workable system for the future of local finance."

Mr Brooke acknowledged that rebellions by backbench Tory MPs had affected the Tory campaign: "I am conscious of a certain amount of activity off-stage."

However, he remained "quietly confident" the Tories would gain seats overall.

He insisted: "This election is not in any sense a judgment on the community charge." It had not played a central part in the reactions met by canvassers on the doorstep.

Mr Brooke, asked if private polling by the Conservatives had confirmed the national opinion poll indications that Labour was closing the gap, replied that the pattern of their polls "has indicated a greater degree of closeness."

Dr Owen, in a speech in Fleet, Hampshire, said that it would have been pointless for the SDP to put up more than the token show of candidates they have achieved: "Paper candidates rarely do well."

He urged supporters to use their votes intelligently to promote the causes they believed in.

"Broadly speaking we are more likely to be sympathetic to candidates standing under the label of the SLD and we should not be ashamed to say so or to vote accordingly."

Dr Owen said that the SDP had not shifted a millimetre from its determination to practise multi-party politics, but he seemed to restrict the width of his olive branch when he went on: "I would hope SDP supporters would vote for SLD in areas where there is an informal or formal understanding between our two parties locally."

Leading article, page 15



Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, at a Conservative local election press conference yesterday.

Territory for a revolution

By David Walker

Rochford is unlikely territory for a revolution in public administration. Sleepy is the adjective that first comes to mind to describe the Essex district, which covers the hinterland of Southend, the Crouch river valley and the dormitory-cum-market towns of Rayleigh and Rochford. Yet Tory Rochford council has become a testbed for local government privatization.

In eight years its staff has been cut from nearly 800 to fewer than 200. Its sports centres are about to be handed over to a company formed by its leisure director and employees; its 2,500 houses and flats are being transferred to a new housing association backed by City money. Private companies tend its parks, mend its roads, and do its surveying.

Rochford has anticipated government Bills that will force all councils to contract out services and end their role as builders and landlords. The future of local government as Mrs Thatcher would like it is already on display in the Crouch valley.

What will the voters say tomorrow? Mr Alan Harvey, the Tory leader, a local man aged 50 who works in the City, is not unhappy with the label "Thatcherite", but would probably admit it has been complacency rather than enthusiasm which has speeded the revolution on its way.

"The council's management of leisure is a continuing financial disaster", Mr Richard Boyd, leader of the 10 Liberals on the council, which has 40 members, said. The Liberals are assailing the council on several fronts, including the size of this year's rate rise, and the fear of worse

to come when adult children living at home are subjected to the poll tax.

He has a point about money. For all the reductions in staff, Rochford's budget has not gone down. In recent years it has been growing in line with inflation.

Mr Boyd has some hard words for the chief executive of Rochford council, Mr Arthur Cooke, who is considered to have been too assiduous a privatizer and advocate of the controversial changes.

For the Liberals and the Labour Party (which has six

Profile: Rochford

seats) the council's most exposed salient is public housing.

"People are extremely worried", Mr David Weir, Labour leader, said, citing lack of consultation over plans to dispose of Rochford's housing.

In future it is unclear to where a homeless family presenting themselves to the council in Rayleigh will be referred.

Mr Weir, whose wife is standing for a ward in the small town of Rochford but who is himself not up this time, said: "The electorate will show their disapproval in the way they vote."

The wards that are being contested this time are predominantly in the rural sections of the district, which ought to favour the Conservatives - though whether the Essex hinterland is voting for change or the status quo will remain an open question even after the votes are counted this week.

Updated payment list is Labour election squib

By David Walker
The Labour Party yesterday tried to ignite an eve-of-poll squib by publishing a list of projected poll tax payments based on council budgets made this April, not, as with previous official extrapolations, on those for

April 1987. Previous poll tax estimates were based on what councils spent last year.
Labour's list points to some striking alterations, putting poll tax up 23 per cent on previous estimates in Croydon and up 22 per cent in Stockport, but

down 1 per cent in Islington and down 16 per cent in Ealing.
However, the figures (prepared by officials of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities for briefings in the House of Lords) show considerable decreases in poll tax in certain areas.

All the figures are estimates since the actual amount payable in April 1990, the date for introduction of the tax, will depend on the population of the district or borough at that date and the amount of money the local authority is attempting to raise.

What the charge would have been this year

Figures for 1988-89 are given first, followed by the 1987-88 figures and the percentage change (decreases marked with a minus).

Inner London: Camden: 636.6, 782.2, -19; Greenwich: 383.6, 608.9, -4; Hackney: 377.2, 691.1, -16; Hamlets: 470.5, 465.4, +1; Islington: 480.2, 483.1, -1; Kensington and Chelsea: 338.8, 370.2, -8; Lambeth: 486.9, 547.0, -11; Lewisham: 577.2, 576.8, -15; Southwark: 510.5, 570.0, -10; Tower Hamlets: 620.6, 639.0, -2; Wandsworth: 385.3, 434.4, -11; Westminster: 370.0, 396.1, -7.

Outer London: Barking and Dagenham: 238.2, 221.1, +8; Barnet: 230.6, 222.9, +3; Bexley: 196.7, 181.1, +9; Brent: 282.6, 9; Bromley: 178.4, 172.7, +3; Croydon: 194.8, 158.0, +23; Ealing: 232.6, 278.3, -16; Enfield: 254.2, 198.7, +28; Haringey: 281.2, 228.9, -14; Haringey: 235.2, 213.1, +10; Havering: 204.0, 189.4, +8; Hillingdon: 241.1, 211.0, +9; Hounslow: 241.8, 170.3, +42; Kingston: 226.6, 212.3, +7; Merton: 187.2, 173.5, +8; Newham: 285.1, 304.5, -6; Redbridge: 162.6, 170.7, -5; Richmond: 257.9, 233.1, +11; Sutton: 231.4, 223.7, +3; Waltham Forest: 270.0, 365.5, -26.

Metropolitan districts: Gt Manchester: Bolton: 229.1, 201.8, +14; Bury: 247.0, 244.4, +1; Manchester: 282.8, 172.4, +64; Oldham: 224.4, 201.4, +11; Rochdale: 275.7, 236.2, +17; Salford: 273.4, 242.8, +13; Stockport: 223.5, 183.5, +22; Tameside: 229.3, 232.8, -16; Trafford: 193.1, 156.1, +24; Wigan: 277.6, 244.7, +13.

Newcastle: Knowsley: 281.2, 266.6, +5; Liverpool: 283.2, 300.8, -6; St Helens: 273.3, 243.3, +12; Sefton: 229.9, 210.1, +9; Wirral: 250.7, 246.2, +2.

S. Yorkshire: Barnsley: 282.9, 264.3, +7; Doncaster: 286.6, 280.2, +2; Rotherham: 286.6, 252.2, +14; Sheffield: 283.8, 247.5, +15.

Type and West: Gateshead: 271.8, 263.5, +3; H. Gateshead: 271.8, 263.5, +3; N. Tyneside: 272.5, 265.5, +3; S. Tyneside: 266.6, 254.2, +5; Sunderland: 270.1, 261.8, +3.

W. Midlands: Birmingham: 315.4, 186.4, +69; Coventry: 246.1, 219.5, +12; Dudley: 235.9, 204.1, +16; Sandwell: 257.8, 175.1, +47; Solihull: 178.5, 163.2, +9; Walsall: 266.3, 191.0, +39; Wolverhampton: 238.9, 204.5, +17.

W. Yorkshire: Bradford: 275.1, 237.6, +16; Calderdale: 295.5, 259.4, +14; Kirklees: 287.5, 246.4, +17; Leeds: 223.3, 204.1, +9; Wakefield: 280.3, 253.6, +11.

Non-metropolitan districts: Isles of Scilly: 151.9, 166.42, -10; Avon: Bath: 250.3, 226.3, +12; Bristol: 268.1, 236.9, +13; Kingswood: 238.0, 205.8, +16.

Northampton: 251.1, 220.6, +14; Walsley: 231.2, 203.6, +14; Woodspire: 250.8, 192.6, +14; Bedfordshire: N Bedfordshire: 252.8, 240.8, +5; Luton: 246.7, 238.7, +8; Bedfordshire: 249.7, 233.3, +7; S Bedfordshire: 259.8, 236.5, +10.

Berkshire: Bracknell: 170.6, 144.1, +18; Newbury: 174.2, 151.0, +15; Reading: 192.1, 167.6, +15; Slough: 176.0, 148.7, +18; Windsor and Maidenhead: 191.0, 164.0, +16; Wokingham: 206.5, 148.7, +38.

Buckinghamshire: Aylesbury Vale: 216.2, 190.7, +13; S Bucks: 237.7, 206.5, +15; Chilterns: 232.1, 211.1, +10; Milton Keynes: 261.0, 215.3, +18; Wycombe: 229.5, 201.1, +14.

Cambridgeshire: Cambridge: 210.1, 189.6, +11; E Cambridgeshire: 193.8, 181.5, +7; Fenland: 205.1, 185.4, +11; Huntingdonshire: 200.5, 182.1, +11; Peterborough: 227.8, 213.9, +7; S Cambridgeshire: 182.8, 166.7, +10.

Cheshire: Chester: 237.6, 193.9, +23; Congleton: 228.4, 187.2, +22; Crewe and Nantwich: 240.6, 192.4, +25; Ellesmere Port and Neston: 213.2, 216.1, -1; Halton: 232.1, 193.6, +20; Macclesfield: 220.4, 183.3, +20; Vale Royal: 228.5, 189.0, +21; Warrington: 211.4, 191.9, +9.

Cleveland: Hartlepool: 292.8, 268.1, +9; Langbaurgh: 301.4, 269.9, +12; Middlesbrough: 280.0, 276.7, +1; Stockton-on-Tees: 274.9, 249.6, +10; Corby: 281.0, 192.3, +46; Darlington: 281.0, 192.3, +46; Hartlepool: 292.8, 268.1, +9; Langbaurgh: 301.4, 269.9, +12; Middlesbrough: 280.0, 276.7, +1; Stockton-on-Tees: 274.9, 249.6, +10.

Devon: E Devon: 188.5, 166.7, +13; Exeter: 180.9, 159.2, +14; N Devon: 196.9, 175.0, +13; Plymouth: 183.6, 164.8, +11; S Hams: 198.6, 178.1, +11; Teignbridge: 198.0, 175.5, +13; Mid Devon: 192.2, 172.9, +11; Torbay: 198.1, 170.1, +16; Torridge: 198.4, 179.9, +10; W Devon: 193.4, 168.1, +15.

Dorset: Bournemouth: 169.6, 165.4, +3; Christchurch: 169.6, 165.4, +3; N Dorset: 158.5, 155.9, +2; Poole: 160.8, 162.3, -1; Purbeck: 154.2, 153.6, +0; W Dorset: 229.1, -1; Gloucest: 259.2.

158.0, 157.1, -1; Weymouth and Portland: 162.6, 165.4, -2; Wymborne: 176.5, 172.6, +2; Darham: Chester-le-Street: 252.8, 240.8, +5; Luton: 246.7, 238.7, +8; Bedfordshire: 249.7, 233.3, +7; S Bedfordshire: 259.8, 236.5, +10.

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Doubts over poll tax a blow to Tory confidence

By Craig Seton
Conservative hopes of regaining control of Birmingham after four years of Labour rule have been dented by concern and confusion among voters over the community charge.

The task of overturning Labour's majority of 13 on the city council was going to be difficult before the Government's troubles with the charge.

Conservative hopes are spurred by the prospect of controlling the country's largest local authority and a city that is enjoying a new mood of optimism and invigoration after years of recession.

Profile: Birmingham

leader, is, however, dismayed that the community charge could damage his party's chances. He said: "The antics of our colleagues in Parliament have done nothing to improve the chances of any Conservative candidate."

"People are concerned about the community charge. Many do not understand it, although most households in Birmingham will gain."

A 2 per cent swing to the Conservatives is needed for Labour to lose overall control and one of 5 per cent for the Conservatives to gain the 14 seats needed for a majority. Of the 117

council seats 39 are being contested, 24 are Labour held, of which nine are marginal.

Birmingham is often regarded as a key indicator of the nation's mood and traditionally the fight for control is a two-horse race, with slim pickings for Liberals and Social Democrats, who have only six seats.

However, the five Social and Liberal Democrat councillors and the one Owenite Social Democratic Party councillor could hold the balance of power if Labour loses eight seats.

Although Birmingham Conservatives attack Labour for rates rises of 70 per cent over four years and claim that hard left Labour councillors are

beginning to dominate moderate colleagues, they support a bipartisan approach to the council's key policies.

Some of the policies display the kind of entrepreneurial flair of which Mrs Thatcher would be proud. Work has started on a £125 million international convention centre, the city council and industry have launched a private urban development agency to regenerate derelict land; and Birmingham is trying to stage the 1996 Olympic Games.

Mrs Pat McDonnell, secretary of Birmingham Social and Liberal Democrats, said: "It has been barren ground for us over the years, but we are close to the balance of power."

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me

laisy

mummy

If your five-year-old son were asked to draw a picture of his family, would you be in it?



'I WAS really choked. He gave it to me at breakfast one Saturday. Really proud of it, he was. There was his mother, his big sister and him. I just wasn't in the picture.'

Most people would agree that time is the one thing we could all do with more of.

What most people don't realise is that the right communications package is one of the shorter routes to saving time at work.

Unfortunately, given the complexity of business communications today, getting one's hands on the right package isn't exactly easy, is it?

Here, on the business side of British Telecom, we've literally thousands of examples of the latest in time-saving systems, equipment and services.

Everything, in fact, from simple radio pagers to fax machines to the technology that allows complex data to be sent across the country in seconds.

Our problem was how to get the items relevant to you into your hands without wasting your time with the rest.

We were serious enough to call in a leading management consultant and, together, we think we've found a solution.

It's called Workplan and this is how it works:

You phone and ask for Workplan. In a day or so, you'll receive the first stage, which is a business-orientated questionnaire designed to help

you evaluate where improved communications might help.

(Even if you decide not to return this, you'll benefit from what you'll learn about yourself as you respond to its questions.)

If you do return a completed questionnaire, we'll use your answers and a bank of computers to analyse your particular business needs.

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'Ah,' we hear, 'but I'm too busy to get into all this.'

All we can do by way of persuasion is reiterate the words in the introduction to Workplan:

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In business, time is money. In your personal life, it can be priceless.

Call us free on 0800 800 840 and ask for your copy of Workplan. Our lines are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

CALL US FREE ON 0800 800 840.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Zia denies aiding rebels in Punjab

President Zia reportedly told a special emissary from Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, that Delhi's allegations of Pakistan backing Sikh separatists in the Punjab were false (Our Foreign Staff writes). Mr K. P. S. Menon, the Indian Secretary for External Affairs, was paying a one-day visit to Islamabad and he conveyed a goodwill message to General Zia. He was given a briefing on Pakistan's intentions towards Afghanistan.

In Delhi, India announced a visit by Mr S. K. Bhatnagar, the Defence Secretary, to Islamabad on May 19 to discuss the Sachi glacier, where soldiers from India and Pakistan have clashed six times in the past three years.

Arafat takes Chatila

Beirut (Reuters) — Guerrillas loyal to the Palestine Liberation Organization's chairman, Mr Yasser Arafat, have gained control of the Chatila refugee camp in Beirut, ousting a rival faction. Palestinian sources said yesterday. After running battles with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades, the fighters loyal to Mr Arafat forced out the dissident pro-Syrian group, which is led by Abu Musa.

The Palestinian sources said that a ceasefire was agreed after mediation by other Palestinian factions and Lebanese groups at Chatila and the nearby Bort al-Batayna refugee camp. The battles, which started at the weekend, left seven people dead and 38 wounded.

Twins are separated

Johannesburg — A 40-strong team of South African surgeons yesterday carried out an apparently successful operation to separate Siamese twins joined at the head and sharing a common blood supply (Ray Kennedy writes). The operation lasted seven-and-a-half hours at the Baragwanath Hospital in Soweto, the huge black township outside Johannesburg.

The hospital superintendent, Dr Chris van den Heever, announced the success of the operation on the 17-month-old girls, named Mpho and Mphonyana. He said the medical team was "thrilled" at the outcome. He added: "It's been a long 16 months — sometimes we've been down in the dumps and at other times guardedly optimistic. But today is the most marvellous day here at the Baragwanath Hospital."

Warrant for builder

Srinagar (Reuters) — An arrest warrant has been issued for the builder of a children's hospital which collapsed in northern India and six engineers who supervised its construction have been suspended, a senior official said yesterday. Mr Farooq Abdullah, the Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, said after visiting the site that 10 people, five children and five adults, were killed on Monday when the three-year-old building collapsed in the city of Jammu.

In initial reports, the hospital superintendent, Mr D.R. Manhas, said that 21 people, most of them children, had been killed. Mr Abdullah added that no bodies remained in the wreckage.

Thai dissidents quit

Bangkok (AP) — Twenty-five dissidents resigned from the coalition Government's main political party yesterday, saying they would form a new party or join opposition groups to contest elections in July. The Prime Minister, General Prem Tinsulanonda, dissolved Parliament last Friday after the dissident Democrat Party MPs voted against a government-backed bill to protect US copyright.

The Governor of Bangkok, Mr Chamlong Srimuang, one of the country's most respected politicians, joined the fray when he registered his newly formed Palang Dharma, or Dharma Power, party for the July 24 elections. Mr Chamlong blamed the dissolution of Parliament on "political greed" and said he was entering the contest as "an obligation to democracy".

Angola peace moves

London talks 'useful'

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

It was a moment for the history books, but not one for high hopes. As the first session of four-power talks on the Angolan civil war opened in London yesterday, sources were warning observers not to expect too much.

When the delegates from Angola, Cuba, South Africa and the United States took their seats around a table in the incongruous setting of the basement of a small hotel off Oxford Street, it was the first time they had all met face to face. After a two-hour session, they agreed to meet again later in the day, while the Angolan Minister of External Relations, Mr Afonso van Dunem, arranged a separate meeting with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

The talks were seen as a triumph for Mr Chester Crocker, the US Assistant Secretary of State who was largely responsible for bringing the parties together. He sat at the head of the three-sided table, with the South African and Angolan delegates facing

each other and the Cubans sitting with the Angolans.

However, Whitehall sources said that, while each party had its own reasons for wanting to end the conflict, the solution still looked a long way off.

Mr Neil van Heerden, the Director-General of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria, said: "We have come to London to see if there is an opening of the diplomatic window." He said that South Africa had an "exploratory and open attitude to the talks", but he cautioned against "overheated expectations".

Mr Justus de Goede, a South African diplomat, described the opening session as "very cordial" and said that everything was going to plan.

Besides Mr van Dunem, Angola was represented by Colonel Antonio dos Santos Franco, the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces.

The Cuban delegation — which was treated as part of the Angolan group — was led by Señor Jorge Riquet, a member of the Politburo and

an expert on African affairs, together with General Ulises Rosales del Toro, the head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

But the absence of the two other elements in the Angola-Namibia equation — the rebel movements of Unita and Swapo — inevitably limited what the talks could achieve.

But British ministers saw yesterday as a useful start and were keen to encourage the parties to continue talking. Although the British Government, technically, is not hosting the talks and has no involvement, Sir Geoffrey plans to see all four delegations during their visit.

The Soviet Union is also thought to be playing a discreet role in encouraging Angola and Cuba to come to terms with South Africa.

● Mozambique atrocities: Father Carlos Matsine, a Maputo priest campaigning for international aid to Mozambique, said in London yesterday that Renamo rebels had slaughtered thousands in his country.

From Richard Bassett
Warsaw

As strike action at the Lenin shipyard at Gdansk intensified yesterday, the government spokesman, Mr Jerzy Urban, threatened three striking factories with closure.

The strike at Nowa Huta, now more than a week old, the two-day-old strike at Gdansk, and the strike yesterday by workers at a railway rolling stock factory at Wroclaw, in Silesia, were a "threat to the economic reform," Mr Urban said.

The provisions of the government reform programme allow for the closure of inefficient enterprises and, Mr Urban said, "the logical step" would be the "closing down of inefficient enterprises which go bankrupt" as a result of industrial unrest.

Poland could not afford the luxury of strikes which had come at "the worst possible time," he said.

But at the Gdansk shipyard, which was the cradle of Solidarity in 1980, Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the banned union, issued a ringing call for a "decisive protest" against the Government. "We have time, we are patient, we can wait," he said to resounding cheers.

The Gdansk strikers are demanding nothing less than legal recognition of Solidarity, which was dissolved by General Jaruzelski's Government in 1982. This is the first time such a demand has been made in the new wave of industrial unrest.

The strikers at Nowa Huta have claimed pay increases to cope with recent price rises and the reinstatement of Solidarity activists recently dismissed.

The Government is not prepared to countenance any role by Solidarity activists in negotiations with workers. "We have nothing to talk about with them," Mr Urban said, especially "now that they are inciting a new crisis."

Mr Urban insisted that Solidarity was also inciting unrest in factories in which no Solidarity members worked. There had not been any arrests of Solidarity leaders, only "preventive measures by the security forces."

Opposition sources reported yesterday that seven members of the national Solidarity commission were still under arrest.

Warsaw ultimatum as dispute intensifies

Strikers threatened with factory closure



Mr Lech Walesa discussing the strike with one of the many shipyard workers in Gdansk who cheered his call for a decisive protest against the Government.

Mr Urban also disputed the numbers of strikers in Wroclaw and Gdansk, saying that only a few hundred had stopped work at the Pafawag works, and only 1,700 were out at the shipyard.

To judge from Mr Urban's remarks, the Government is also anxious to divide the strikers by offering leniency to those who are not members of Solidarity and not demanding political concessions.

"The authorities are aware of the bitterness of the plight among some of the strikers," Mr Urban said. "We do not think of them as opposition."

Negotiations were continuing with the official unions set up by the Government at Nowa Huta after Solidarity was banned, but a letter to the Deputy Prime Minister and chief architect of the economic reform, Mr Zdzislaw Sadowski, from the strike committee of Solidarity members did not merit a reply.

"The Deputy Prime Minister only received the letter yesterday, long after its contents had been broadcast by Western radio stations. This is extremely discourteous," Mr Urban said.

In Cracow, students at the Jagiellonian University staged a strike, abandoning seminars and lectures. Similar action is

planned today at the University of Warsaw, where the main gate was closed to students yesterday.

● ROME: The Pope, who this week received a passionate appeal from the striking steelworkers of Nowa Huta, has made his first statement on the Polish crisis but has studiously avoided taking sides in the conflict (Roger Boyes writes).

"The logical step would be the closing down of inefficient enterprises which go bankrupt as a result of industrial unrest. We have nothing to talk about with Solidarity, especially now that they are inciting a crisis," Jerzy Urban



Addressing a group of Polish pilgrims, he emphasized that work should be organized in a humane way, that free expression should be guaranteed and that Poles should bear in mind the tenets of his teachings in the encyclical *Laborem Exercens*. That en-

cyclical was regarded by many as the spiritual foundation of the Solidarity movement.

"We are watching the situation of the past few days, have recorded the ideas of the workers and their responsibility to their work and to the whole nation," he told the Polish pilgrims. He prayed "with the whole church that the church teaching on work would be understood and

violence against the strikers. So far, the Pope was pleased with the restraint on both sides.

The advice reaching the Vatican from Poland is that the strikes may not spread throughout the country and that "individual negotiated settlements may be possible."

The Pope is said to be personally touched by the events, not least because during his visit to Poland last June he praised Solidarity ideals and urged the authorities to create a system that allowed "work to serve man and not make man a slave of work."

The letter to the Pope from Nowa Huta said the workers were "fighting for an honest wage" and quoted the Pope's words on the dignity of work.

Vatican sources, quoting Mr Lech Walesa, Solidarity's leader, said that a national explosion might do considerable harm, not only to Poland's fragile unity but also to Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's reform programme. In recent weeks the Vatican has been making conciliatory moves towards Moscow, and the climate seems right for a thaw in church-state relations throughout Eastern Europe. In Czechoslovakia there are

signs of some movement in the controversial issue of nominating bishops and elsewhere church-state relations appear to be edging slowly in the right direction. Violence in Poland could stifle those hopes.

● Exile to return: Mr Kornel Morawiecki, a leader of the Fighting Solidarity anti-communist splinter group, intended to return to Poland yesterday from Rome, Polish sources said (Reuters reports).

Mr Morawiecki and Mr Emil Kolodziej, another leader of the group, were released from jail in Poland and put on a plane to Rome last Saturday.

The sources said Mr Morawiecki had booked a seat on a flight to Poland. But Mr Kolodziej, who has a suspected duodenal tumour, was expected to enter hospital last night.

The two men originally refused to board a plane to Rome on Saturday after learning of the industrial unrest in their country.

But they agreed to leave after negotiations involving Polish church authorities, during which Mr Morawiecki said that they had been assured they would be allowed to return to Poland.

Takeshita flies in



Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Japanese Prime Minister, being met by Lord Glenarthur, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, at Heathrow Airport yesterday. Mr Takeshita is hoping that his two-day visit to Britain will help to build a closer relationship with Europe (Andrew McEwen writes). He is to see the Prince of Wales, Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, today. Mrs Thatcher is expected to raise Britain's demands for a cut in Japanese taxes on whisky and for more British firms to be allowed on Tokyo's Stock Exchange.

Portuguese tourism

Algarve faces lean year

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

The number of British tourists in the Algarve this season may be 40 per cent lower than last year, according to a representative of the Portuguese Hotel Association.

Senhor Oliveira Santos based the estimate on numbers given to him by Mr Henry Chandler of the Tour Operators Study Group in London.

The president of regional tourism in the Algarve, Senhor Horacio Cavaco, said British tourists would represent fewer than 50 per cent of tourists, compared with more than 70 per cent in 1987 — a drop of around 250,000. This would be the lowest British representation since 1980.

Senhor Cavaco attributed the decline to changes within the group of tour operators in London. He denied that there was a reduction in Portugal's campaign in Britain to attract tourists, but admitted that this year's advertising was aimed to attract sectors of the population with stronger buying power — what the Algarve

Tourist Authority referred to as "quality tourism".

Last year, the governor of the Algarve, Senhor Cabrito Neto, and other authorities declared that tourists were not exactly welcome because they did not spend much money and often caused trouble.

The wide publicity given to these statements in Britain — and the resulting rise in hotel and villa prices — is keeping tourists away. One British tour operator said: "It is now cheaper to send a tourist to a four-star hotel in Miami, all-inclusive, than to send him to the Algarve. The coast of Spain and other Mediterranean countries are cheaper."

British tourists complain that the area is constantly under construction, causing noise and interrupting traffic.

Senhor Neto said he did not believe British tourism would be down by 40 per cent. "That is too pessimistic. The number arriving in the first three months is more or less the same as during the same period of 1987," he said.

The governor said he believed the overall number of Britons visiting the Algarve would be the same as in 1987.

Senhor Neto admitted that the authorities were trying to diversify the market — and doing so successfully.

"It is wrong to have all your eggs in one basket," he said. "Our other markets declined as the British market went up, but in 1987 and 1988 we have doubled the number of tourists from Switzerland, Holland and West Germany."

He admits that prices on the Algarve are higher than at Mediterranean destinations. "Our villas, apartments and hotels give quality, which must be paid for."

Senhor Neto said he believed that the Algarve campaign for "quality tourism" was paying off. He added: "In 1980 we had problems with water and the sewage system, so we put all our money towards solving those problems, but now we will concentrate on enlarging and surfacing the roads."

And now a rerun of yesterday's repeat

From Charles Bremner, Los Angeles

If the jokes seem more stale than usual on American talk shows these days, and the dialogue even more stilted in the soap operas, blame the trade unions.

Déjà vu is the order of the day on the big networks as a strike by scriptwriters drags into its eighth week with no sign of settlement, forcing everything from *Moonlighting* and *LA Law* to the talk shows off the air or into repeats.

With its voracious thirst for words, television was first hit, but the silence of the word-processors is now starting to bite in the big Hollywood movie studios.

And as the networks, studios and production companies of Hollywood and New York confront the 9,000 members of the Writers' Guild of America, two big technicians' unions are making plans to launch their own strike. If they go ahead, Hollywood will have on its hands the worst labour strife since the craft unions walked out in the 1940s.

A journeyman class by the standards of Hollywood glamour, the writers earn relatively meagre \$40,000 (\$22,000) a year on average and half are unemployed at any time. But apart from air traffic controllers or doctors, few groups can have made such an impact on the average citizen.

Take Johnny Carson, the king of the talk show hosts, for example. His

commentary on topical events every night is a bedtime ritual for tens of millions. The Soviet Embassy even reports it back to Moscow as a semi-official source.

Switch on now and the jokes are about the Contra scandal and Donna Rice — last year's news. Carson cannot do without his big team of writers so they put on repeats. The same applies to David Letterman and the other big names.

This year's Oscar ceremony suffered from joke-drought. In the absence of professional writers some of the actors wrote their own, with dire results.

For the networks, ABC, CBS and NBC, the show must go on, at least in one area — the so-called "daytime soaps," which must keep their devoted audience of housewives. This has meant recruiting everyone, from secretaries to actors and their families to try keep the plot rolling.

"Soaps look so easy, but they get it all wrong," says Mrs Rocco Chaffetz, a veteran of *Knots Landing*. "I watched one the other day and it was like they forgot to add words. There were people running through the park and not saying anything. It didn't make sense." Less professional viewers might imagine that running through parks with no dialogue was a regular feature of the soap.

In the last big writers' strike — a 13-

week walkout in 1981 — "scab" writers wrought havoc. Top characters were killed off, had affairs with the wrong people or underwent unexplained personality changes.

Ms Claire Labine, co-creator of one soap called *Ryan's Hope*, said she returned to her show after that strike and found her heroine murdered by her lover. "It's a little as if you leave your children with a trusted sitter for the weekend and return to find them all juvenile delinquents and in jail," she said.

The producers, grouped under the Association of Motion Picture and Television Producers, say the writers have already caused \$15 million losses. More than 1,000 actors and 200 directors have been laid off as well as secretaries and others.

Since talks broke off on March 6, informal negotiations have produced nothing, Ms Rhoden said.

The writers want greater rights over their work, but the main point in dispute is "residuals," the royalties paid to writers when television shows are syndicated after they have been run on the big networks.

The writers earn a third of their money from these and the producers need the earnings from syndication to recoup on production costs.

Last year the producers won agreement from directors for a sliding scale of payment. The writers are refusing a

similar arrangement and say they are prepared to stick it out in the belief that the longer they wait the tougher life will become for the whole film industry.

A lack of writers will hold up new films starting this summer and to be released next year. "If we can't get things going in June or July then we're in trouble late next summer," said one movie executive.

The threat of a far wider strike comes from the 25,000 craft, transport and unskilled production workers, the footsoldiers of the studio lots, who are gathered under the notorious Teamsters' Union and the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.

The producers want to eliminate jobs and cut pay scales in order to compete with costs in other states and Canada, which are drawing away productions from Hollywood. The union leaders described the producers' demands as "outrageous" and an attempt to break the system of organized labour. The writers' claim for a bigger share of the movie intake appeared to receive a boost yesterday when Hollywood announced fresh figures that point to a record year in 1988. So far this year, new films have earned more than \$1 billion at the box office. Last year the industry reached that figure late in May and went on to register a record \$4.2 billion revenue.

British soldier's flight with truck baffles Belgian police

From Jonathan Brande, Brussels

A British soldier was being questioned by police in a Belgian hospital yesterday after a dash through three countries in a stolen army truck.

Lance-Corporal Andrew John Bray, serving with the 35th Squadron of the Royal Corps of Transport in Duisburg, West Germany, drove off with a five-tonne Sialwart amphibious truck while his squadron was on training exercises at Leuth, near the Dutch border.

Armed with a self-loading rifle and two boxes of blank ammunition, he headed for the motorway and the border crossing at Venlo.

The soldier, who is believed to come from Sandy, Bedfordshire, crossed into the Netherlands after midnight, and opened fire at the Dutch police as they chased him for entering the country in an unauthorized vehicle.

Then he escaped into Belgium and headed towards Antwerp. But whatever his true destination, his flight was halted after 80 miles, when Belgian police put up a road-

block, forcing him up the motorway exit to Turnhout — where he got himself trapped in a cul-de-sac.

Undeterred, he turned three searchlights on the Belgian police cars. The police were shooting at the lights as he climbed out of the cab and disappeared just after 3am.

He was found unconscious but uninjured five hours later, 12 miles outside the town at the village of Wechelderzande. He had crossed a drainage ditch to put police dogs off the scent and was suffering from shock and exposure.

A British military policeman, guarding him at St Elisabeth Hospital in Turnhout yesterday morning, said: "He is physically OK, and now being questioned by the local police. He is not quite himself, but there's no other physical damage. His condition when he was brought in was typical of a man who has spent a night out on a cold, wet and windy night. He is sitting up and talking but he hasn't said why he did it."

The military policeman said he knew of no evidence that

the soldier had been drinking or taking other drugs.

As well as breaking British Army rules, he is also likely to be in trouble with the Dutch and Belgian police for his bizarre escapade.

Police said the soldier had no explanation for his actions. "We have questioned him, but he can't say why he did it," said a senior judicial police officer.

The soldier was last night expected to be moved to the British base at Emblem in north Belgium, at the centre of the British communications zone on the supply route from the Channel ports to northern West Germany.

While the inquiries into the case continued, Mr Ian Stewart, the Armed Services Minister, was flying in to RAF Wildenrath, West Germany. He was expected to visit the RAF hospital at Wegberg to see the survivors of Sunday's attacks by the IRA on British servicemen in The Netherlands. Princess Margaret is expected to visit British installations in West Germany later today on a private visit.

Loyalists arm for Kanak backlash

From Christopher Morris, Sydney

The French Pacific territory of New Caledonia last night moved closer to civil war as militant white settlers armed themselves against attacks by Kanak separatists and set the French Government a 48-hour deadline to restore law and order to the islands.

Already the violence has reached the capital of Nouméa with a firebomb attack on the car of a white supporter of independence. The attack outside the home of Mr Georges Detex, a leading member of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front, was seen as a warning by French loyalists to back the rebels' demand for independence.

M Guy George, the leader of the extreme right-wing National Front, claimed that French security forces had failed to control the separatists, and that loyalists had to act to protect their families and properties.

"Our people will be on their guard," he warned. "We have to crush this gang now that they are carrying out acts of terrorism. The terrorists must realize they have determined men to face."

Vigilante groups have started to patrol some loyalist areas and set up barricades to keep out the Kanaks. Officially there are 100,000 licensed guns, rifles and shotguns in New Caledonia, which has a population of just 150,000. However, there are severe restrictions on the supply of ammunition.

The loyalists have no doubt they will need their weapons. One of them, M Maurice David, said: "People are very worried about their safety. Most loyalists already keep their guns loaded. We don't want to be massacred like the French gendarmes on the island of Ouvéa two weeks ago."

Tension in the loyalist community has grown considerably since the murder three days ago of José Lapéte, a



Hooded and armed Kanak separatists guarding tracks leading to tribal villages near Canala on New Caledonia yesterday.

loyalist and self-confessed killer of 10 Kanak separatists in December 1984. Lapéte, who was shot dead at his farm 130 miles north of Nouméa during clashes with Kanak rebels in the town of Voh, was buried yesterday as a martyr to the loyalist cause.

Lapéte was one of several loyalists who ambushed 10 Kanaks, including two brothers of M Jean-Marie Tjibaou, leader of the Liberation Front. Their subsequent trial is the most often cited cause for the present wave of violence. Lapéte spent almost a year in prison before being acquitted with other accused people last November.

Fears of a loyalist backlash were intensified by yesterday's funeral. Mourners were told they would have to

meet violence with violence or pack their bags and leave New Caledonia.

The National Front plans to call out hundreds of its supporters, linked by a local radio network, to act as vigilante groups in support of the loyalist forces.

There are 14,000 police and military personnel on the islands and the increasing tensions have seen an exodus of tourists and cancelled holiday bookings from what is a popular regional tourist destination. About 80 per cent of hotel beds have been taken over by police.

The 23 French hostages seized by Kanak rebels 12 days ago are still imprisoned in a cave on the coral atoll of Ouvéa. Negotiations for their release are deadlocked and

French troops still remain undecided on whether to risk a rescue operation. The hostages include a magistrate and 22 gendarmes.

One of the 15 Kanaks guarding them is described as a Libyan-trained fanatic who has been observed strolling about the cave waving the blood-stained axe with which the separatists hacked to death four other gendarmes.

Meanwhile another Kanak leader, Mr Yann Céline Uregei, head of the extremist Kanak United Liberation Front, has made a secret trip to Fiji for talks with Brigadier Sitiveni Rabuka, leader of last year's military coups, who is said to have pledged strong support to the separatists.

● NOUMEA: The French Government yesterday re-

fused to make an aircraft available to three members of the French parliament who offered to take the place of the 23 hostages (AFP reports).

Officials said that, in view of talks in progress, the Government had decided not to accept the proposed exchange. The separatists had earlier rejected the offer, describing it as grotesque, ridiculous and indecent.

The Government's reply finally laid to rest the offer made at the inaugural session of the Territorial Congress on Monday by Mr Dick Ukeiwe.

M Jacques Lafleur and M Maurice Nenou were the other parliamentarians involved in the hostage swap offer. M Lafleur is leader of the loyalist anti-independence Rally for Caledonia.

Mitterrand win would force right to realign

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

While President Mitterrand is out on the road addressing enthusiastic public meetings, his advisers at the Elysée Palace are already considering how France will be governed after Sunday.

The size of Mitterrand's win in the final round of the presidential election will not change his post-election strategy, according to senior advisers. But it will be a factor in determining how quickly the superficial unity of the right will collapse, and therefore how soon members of the centre-right might be prepared to throw in their lot with the Socialists in forming a Government.

Mitterrand has promised that, if re-elected, he will name a Prime Minister who shares his values. It would then be up to the right-wing majority National Assembly to approve his choice. M Chirac has already stated that if he loses next Sunday he will not continue as Prime Minister.

The future for the long-suffering French public does not look rosy. For if Mitterrand fails to find a Prime Minister acceptable both to the Socialists and to the moderate right, the alternative is dissolving parliament and calling general elections.

There is already serious unease between the two main right-wing Republican and Democratic Union parties over the high first-round vote for the National Front. That unease was aggravated by M Chirac's campaign manager, M Charles Pasqua, who said at the weekend that National Front and Republican values were largely the same.

A clear win for Mitterrand would help swing some

centre-right politicians towards Mitterrand and throw open the question of who would lead the classical right.

According to a highly-placed presidential source, the various post-electoral combinations being contemplated does not mean that Mitterrand's victory is taken for granted. "Although M Pasqua's statement provided us with a helping hand we didn't expect, we too have also been hit by the uncertainty of the *le choc Le Pen*," he said, referring to the National Front leader's 14.5 per cent of the first round vote.

He feels the margin between Mitterrand and M Chirac could be narrower than opinion poll figures which give Mitterrand a 10 point lead. He is adamant that they expect nothing from M Le Pen, nor will they concede an inch in his direction.

The National Front voters who could now vote for Mitterrand are those who registered a protest vote, but whose sentiments are socialist rather than right-wing.

"Unemployment and poor living conditions aggravate racism," said the same source. "There is no miracle cure, but improve housing, transport and schools and the Le Pen vote falls."

"Even in the rural areas, where farmers are suffering, we must try other local industries — in the new technology and tourism field for instance."

Another thorny question on which the Elysée advisers will tread carefully is New Caledonia. It is obvious that President Mitterrand's pro-independence ideas of 1981 have been dismissed.

Mother pleads to see Marcos

Manila (Reuters) — Mrs Josefa Marcos, aged 95, the ailing mother of former President Marcos, made an appeal from her deathbed yesterday for her son to be allowed home from exile in Hawaii.

Mrs Marcos wrote to President Aquino, calling on her to grant "my dying wish. The one thing that will put a smile upon my lips when I leave this world is to see my Ferdinand by my bedside." There was no official reaction to the letter from the presidential palace.

Branson talks

Sydney — Mr Richard Branson, chairman of the Virgin Group, is to have talks with the Australian Minister for Communications and Transport, Senator Gareth Evans, about starting flights between London and several Australian cities.

Safe landing

Amsterdam (AP) — A KLM Boeing 747 en route from Los Angeles to Amsterdam with 212 people on board made an emergency landing here after part of its landing gear failed.

Christie rights

New York (AP) — The rights to 87 books by Agatha Christie have been bought by the Putnam Berkley Group as part of a package sold by the ailing publishing house, Dodd Mead.

24 charged

West Berlin (Reuters) — Twenty-four people have been charged after clashes between demonstrators and police during May Day rallies.

Ban lifted

Dhaka (Reuters) — Bangladesh has lifted a ban imposed four months ago on the BBC.

Job movement within EEC

Call for exam harmony

From Michael Dwyer, Brussels

EEC trade ministers yesterday expressed optimism over reaching agreement on a proposed Europe-wide system of mutual recognition of higher education diplomas by the middle of the year.

Once implemented, the proposal would enable any EEC national to take up residence and practise their chosen profession in any member state with the minimum of bureaucratic red tape.

The proposal, which has been the subject of tortuous negotiations since 1985, was described by Mr Francis Maude, Minister of State for the Department of Trade and Industry, as "a fundamental building block of the European internal market".

At present, the vast majority of professional people who want to practise in a member state other than the one in which they qualified are prevented from doing so because their qualifications are not recognized outside their own country.

Appeal for withdrawal by Vietnam

Düsseldorf (Reuters) — The European Community yesterday urged Vietnam to enter direct peace talks with Prince Sihanouk, the exiled Cambodian leader, to secure a pull-out of Hanoi's 100,000 troops from his country.

"Peace and stability in South-East Asia can be restored only through the cessation of hostilities and of foreign military occupation of Cambodia," the Community and the Association of South-East Asian Nations said in a joint communiqué issued after

a two-day meeting of foreign ministers. "The ministers ... appeal to Vietnam to join Prince Sihanouk in peace talks," it said.

It was the first time that the EEC, seeking a larger role in world politics, publicly endorsed Prince Sihanouk's peace campaign. It was heading a strong appeal by ASEAN — Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Brunei — for backing in their search for a neutral Cambodia under guarantees by the United Nations Security Council. The communiqué said: "The preponderant role of Prince Sihanouk in the settlement of the Kampuchean problem would promote the various interests of all parties concerned."

training and calls to implement examinations to test the competence of professional foreign nationals.

EEC ministers are divided over whether migrating professionals should be subject to an additional period of study, or required to pass another examination, or both, before being allowed to practise in the country of their choice.

Britain, along with a number of other EEC states, supports tests to check that lawyers, engineers, accountants and others can adapt to a new working environment but does not want the tests to become a full-scale examination on the whole corpus of knowledge in question.

● Toy danger: In an effort to reduce the high level of infant fatalities caused by dangerous toys, EEC trade ministers yesterday agreed to a new package of strict toy safety standards.

The measures will effectively prohibit dangerous toys from the EEC which, according to the European Commission, kill some 20,000 children every year.

The Community also gave a pledge to deny Hanoi any economic assistance that would "sustain and enhance the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea".

The meeting also called on Hanoi to attend a Cambodian conference which ASEAN wants to convene in Jakarta.

Protests mar Turkish visit

From Mario Mediano, Athens

Just as Greece and Turkey had reaffirmed their will to avoid war and improve relations, police in Athens yesterday clashed with Greek-Cypriot students, Kurdish political refugees, and Armenian protesters seeking to disrupt an official visit by Mr Bedreddin Dalan, the mayor of Istanbul.

Riot police removed demonstrators who tried to throw themselves in front of the car taking Mr Dalan to the Unknown Soldier's Monument where he laid a wreath. They chanted anti-Turkish slogans and tried to break through the heavy police cordon.

As the mayor left to call on Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, at his country home, police arrested a Cypriot youth for trying to snatch and destroy the wreath laid by Mr Dalan. Three other demonstrators were detained, but all were released later.

Mr Papandreu, who spent more than an hour with the mayor, said later they had spoken "of our two countries,



Mr Papandreu: Accepted invitation to visit Istanbul.

Prime Minister in 35 years. Mr Papandreu said he had accepted Mr Dalan's invitation to go to Istanbul and would do so during his return visit to Turkey. "I believe I shall be in a position to visit neighbouring Turkey within a few months," he said. No Greek Prime Minister has visited Turkey officially since 1959.

Mayor Dalan is here as the guest of Mr Miltiades Evert, the Mayor of Athens, who paid an official visit to Istanbul two months ago. He awarded Mayor Dalan the gold medal of the city last night during a banquet at City Hall that was again the scene of hostile demonstrations.

While there is scepticism and mistrust here about the Greek-Turkish reconciliation effort that began in Davos, Switzerland, on January 31, the incidents that have marred Mr Dalan's visit are provoked by minority groups that fear better relations with Turkey may affect their status.

Drugs and radiation can't distinguish between a cancerous cell and a healthy one.

So when certain advanced forms of cancer are given high dosage treatment it's impossible to avoid damaging other parts of the body as well.

Particularly vulnerable is bone marrow — the source of white blood cells

which form the

IMAGINE THE BENEFITS OF MAKING

body's defence system.

Bone marrow can be protected by a form of transplantation.

Remove some before treatment and then replace it afterwards.

The problem is, cancer may already have spread to the bone marrow. Putting it back could mean putting back cancer.

If only we could 'clean' it first.

But how?

Scientists are currently experimenting with 'monoclonal antibodies', kind of cancer-seeking missiles which track down and stick to cancer cells — although they don't actually kill them.

Instead of trying to attach 'warheads' to these missiles, one of our doctors had the lateral thought of attaching little magnetic beads containing iron. The idea being that as these stick to the cancer cells, they too would become magnetic.

He then passed the bone marrow through a tube surrounded by magnets.

And it worked. The 'magnetic' cancer cells were trapped leaving the healthy cells completely untouched.

It will take some time yet to carry out the tests

needed to assess the long-term effectiveness of this type of therapy.

Nevertheless, other centres in this country and overseas have now adopted our technique, and over 100 patients have been treated so far.

Many of these have been children suffering from

neuroblastoma, a

IMAGINE THE BENEFITS OF MAKING CANCER CELLS MAGNETIC.

a depressingly low survival rate.

Eventually we hope that we may have as much success in treating this as we've had with Hodgkin's Disease.

(Ten years ago hardly any children survived it, now 90% recover.)

But to make this possible we need help. The ICRF receives no government support but relies entirely on public funding, of which over 93% is made directly available for research.

If you can help, please cut the coupon. Or you can make a credit card donation by dialling 100 and asking for Freefone Cancer.

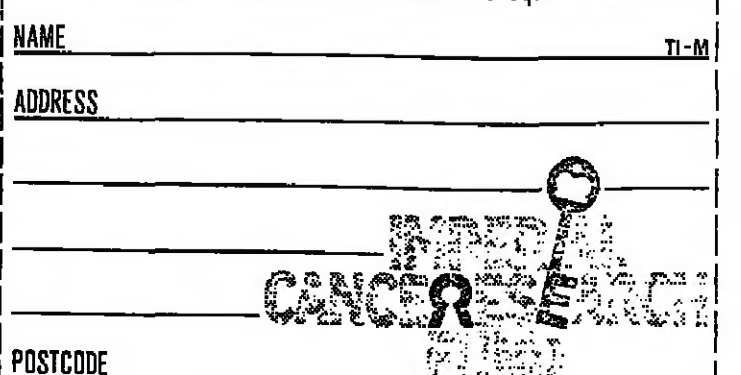
The more money we can attract, the better the chances of cancer sufferers everywhere.

Please send me information on how I can help by covenant / legacy / fund-raising (please delete). Send to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, PO Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX. I enclose a cheque for £

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Najibullah pursues long-term support from Delhi in talks

By Edward Gorman

With the start of a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan less than two weeks away, the Indian Government has announced that President Najibullah of Afghanistan is to hold two rounds of talks with Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, during a three-day visit to Delhi starting tomorrow.

The talks will mark President Najibullah's first official visit since he took office in Kabul, and they are being seen as part of his drive to strengthen his position in the region as the Soviet withdrawal comes into effect.

India has never publicly criticized the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan during the past 10 years, and Dr Najibullah is expected to be seeking further long-term guarantees of support from Mr Gandhi during the crucial coming months as he fights to hold on to his position against an expected onslaught by Mujahidin guerrillas.

President Najibullah will be accompanied in Delhi by his Interior Minister, giving rise to speculation that he may also be asking India for financial and material assistance to help in the reconstruction of

Afghanistan. Last week the Afghan Finance Minister, Mr Mohammad Kabir, appealed to the Asian Development Bank for aid to repair his country's economy and to enable the estimated five million refugees to return home.

The talks come after top-level consultations in Islamabad earlier this week between President Zia of Pakistan and the Indian Foreign Secretary, Mr K. P. S. Menon, which will have done much to dispel Pakistani suspicions of Indian motives in Afghanistan.

Pakistani leaders have made no secret of their disgust for recent moves by India to involve itself in the peace process in Afghanistan. Pakistan regards this as unacceptable from a country which they view as having given its implicit backing to the Soviet invasion.

Western diplomats in Islamabad reported that Afghan guerrillas fired more rockets into Kabul last week than in any other week this year.

The attacks coincided with tenth anniversary celebrations of the 1978 coup — known as the Saur Revolution — that brought the People's Democratic Party to power. The

diplomats, quoting colleagues in Kabul, said one rocket landed in a street near President Najibullah's palace, and two diplomatic residences were hit in other attacks.

"A preliminary count indicates at least 13 separate rocket attacks, mostly multiple," one diplomat commented in Islamabad.

The diplomats also noted a continuing heavy flow of military supplies to Kabul as Moscow tries to bolster its ally prior to a withdrawal. They also spoke of further significant commitments by Soviet troops in areas to the south of the Afghan capital and in provinces bordering on Pakistan.

● **Torture charges:** Amnesty International today publishes allegations of a policy by Soviet and Afghan government forces of deliberate killings of Afghan refugees attempting to flee to Pakistan (Andrew McEwen writes).

The report, based on incidents in 1987 and this year, also says that there is a continuing practice of torture, as well as ill-treatment of prisoners and the conscription of many who were released under a general amnesty.

Royal beauty treatment



Mr Alex Kosmas cleaning a statue of Queen Victoria in Sydney yesterday. The Queen will see the statue of her great-great-grandmother today when she opens the Darling Harbour Project as part of her tour to Australia during its bicentenary celebrations.

Yeltsin back in limelight with call for reform

From A Correspondent, Moscow

An unrepentant Mr Boris Yeltsin, ousted as Moscow's Communist Party chief in November after criticizing the slow pace of perestroika, made a spectacular comeback in the Soviet press yesterday, calling for "revolutionary ideas" to spur reform.

Mr Yeltsin, now first deputy chairman of the State Construction Committee, made his remarks in an interview with the building newspaper, *Stroitel'naya Gazeta*. His new post carries ministerial rank but is less important than his former position.

The re-appearance of Mr Yeltsin, an ardent reformist who was fired after speaking out at a Central Committee meeting last October — at which he reportedly accused fellow Politburo members of breaking the reforms — is certain to comfort the supporters of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's economic and social restructuring. The reformists are currently locked in battle with conservatives who want to proceed more cautiously.

The former Moscow chief who was taken to hospital with heart problems during the storm over his remarks, lost his seat as a non-voting member of the Politburo in February.

Mr Yeltsin, aged 57, last month spoke out with characteristic frankness in a new German-language version of the weekly, *Moscow News*. The interview, with a Soviet journalist, has not been published in the Soviet Union.

Looking fit and tanned, Mr Yeltsin told a Western reporter on Sunday during a conversation after the traditional May Day parade that it had not yet been officially decided whether the article would be published here.

Mr Yeltsin, a mason by trade, told the *Stroitel'naya Gazeta*, in an article dealing mainly with the building industry, that perestroika was now at a "decisive stage".

"It is perfectly clear that we cannot work things out with mediocrity — we need revolutionary ideas," he said.

"We cannot disappoint people's hopes," he said, adding that in his view a large part of

the Soviet public hoped for "a change for the better" through perestroika.

Mr Yeltsin appeared determined to carry on his struggle against centralized management, which had brought him many enemies in the Moscow bureaucracy during his two-year tenure as party chief. He specifically called for a revision of construction methods and recommended that people be kept informed about building projects.

Mr Yeltsin's sacking in November, presided over by Mr Gorbachev himself, dismayed supporters of perestroika.

The affair caught the public imagination to such an extent that a false version of his October speech — which has never been published in accordance with Central Committee practice — is still circulating in Moscow.

Mr Yeltsin denounced the false version in his interview in the German edition of *Moscow News*.

During his disappearance from public view commentators explained that Mr Yeltsin had been an innovator guilty of wanting to rush ahead with the reforms.

But as the debate within the Communist Party has now focused on the pace and scope of perestroika, Mr Yeltsin has re-emerged as a rehabilitated leader of a faction which appears to be gaining the upper hand. The conservative faction is led by the man he reportedly criticized at the October meeting, the Kremlin number two, Mr Yegor Ligachev.



Mr Yeltsin: "We cannot disappoint people's hopes."

Letter from Panama City

Writing on the wall struck out

As Panama's economy lurches deeper into crisis, and businesses and factories shut down in protest against General Manuel Noriega's refusal to resolve it by packing his bags, a little-known group of artists has apparently joined the swelling ranks of strikers.

Panama City's political graffiti writers have put down their cans of spray paint. No longer do they do battle on the walls of public buildings, spraying over the slogans of their rivals.

For many weeks a wall that had been painted one night with "Down with Noriega" or "Get out, Pineapple Face" — a fond reference to the general's acne-scarred complexion — would be resprayed the next night with "Beware of the fascist terror of the white-tails", an equally fond reference to the light-skinned upper-class elite that runs the opposition movement.

It could be because the graffiti artists, like many private and public sector workers, have not received their mid-month wages as a result of the cash crisis and the bank shutdown. Or it could be that the conspicuous presence, on nearly every street corner, of soldiers armed with M16 rifles has dissuaded even pro-government graffiti artists from venturing out at night.

Or it could be that graffiti authors on both sides have realized that there is only one slogan left that finds resonance in the political consciousness of the nation. In fact, it is not a slogan at all, but a question: when? When will I get my wages? When will the banks reopen? When will life return to normal? When will the general go? These are the questions one overhears people gloomily asking each other in bus queues and bars.

There is an almost universal consensus that General Noriega's departure is inevitable — among opposition groups, the people at large, and apparently within the Government and the armed forces.

Although formal negotiations between the general and envoys of the US State Department have broken down, informal discussions over a mutually acceptable formula have continued. The US Ambassador to Panama, Mr Arthur Davis, met over the weekend with Señor Ramon Siero, the secretary-general of the Labour Party, which is a partner in the ruling coalition. Señor Siero is a brother-in-law of the armed forces chief.

An official of the opposition Panamenista party, whose candidate, Señor Arnulfo Arias, was beaten in what is now accepted to have been a fraudulent election in 1984, has revealed that the party has entered into negotiations with the armed forces. It is known that General Noriega wants Señor Arias to take over as president.

There are at least five people who can claim to be president and this does not make the task of choosing a successor government easier. Señor Arias, aged 86, a racist and mystic who in Adolf Hitler's judgement would have made an excellent governor of the Third Reich's Latin dominions, claims that the military cheated him of victory in the 1984 poll. Frail, with ailing sight, he apparently still enjoys enormous popular support.

Señor Nicolas Ardito Barletta, recognized by the State Department as the winner in that election, was dismissed by General Noriega for ordering an inquiry into a political assassination. However, he apparently has never formally resigned the presidency and could still stake his claim.

Señor Eric Delvalle, Señor Barletta's successor, was sacked by General Noriega when he dared to appoint a new armed forces chief. The Americans insist he is still the legitimate President, and must be reinstated as part of any deal. A multi-millionaire, thought to be in hiding in the US Embassy, Señor Delvalle suddenly discovered his democratic vocation after the general was indicted on drugs trafficking charges in the US.

The former Vice-President, Señor Roderick Esquivel, who was next in line when Señor Delvalle was sacked, could also claim the presidency. He discovered his democratic vocation while attending a conference in Nicaragua last autumn, in which he publicly criticized the regime for the first time. When he returned to Panama he found that he no longer had a desk or an office.

Finally, Señor Manuel Solis, the current President of Panama, can argue that his appointment as Señor Delvalle's successor conforms to constitutional law.

Not one person on this list has bona fide democratic credentials or a clean record in public office. Somewhere among them, barring miracles, lies Panama's future.

David Gollob

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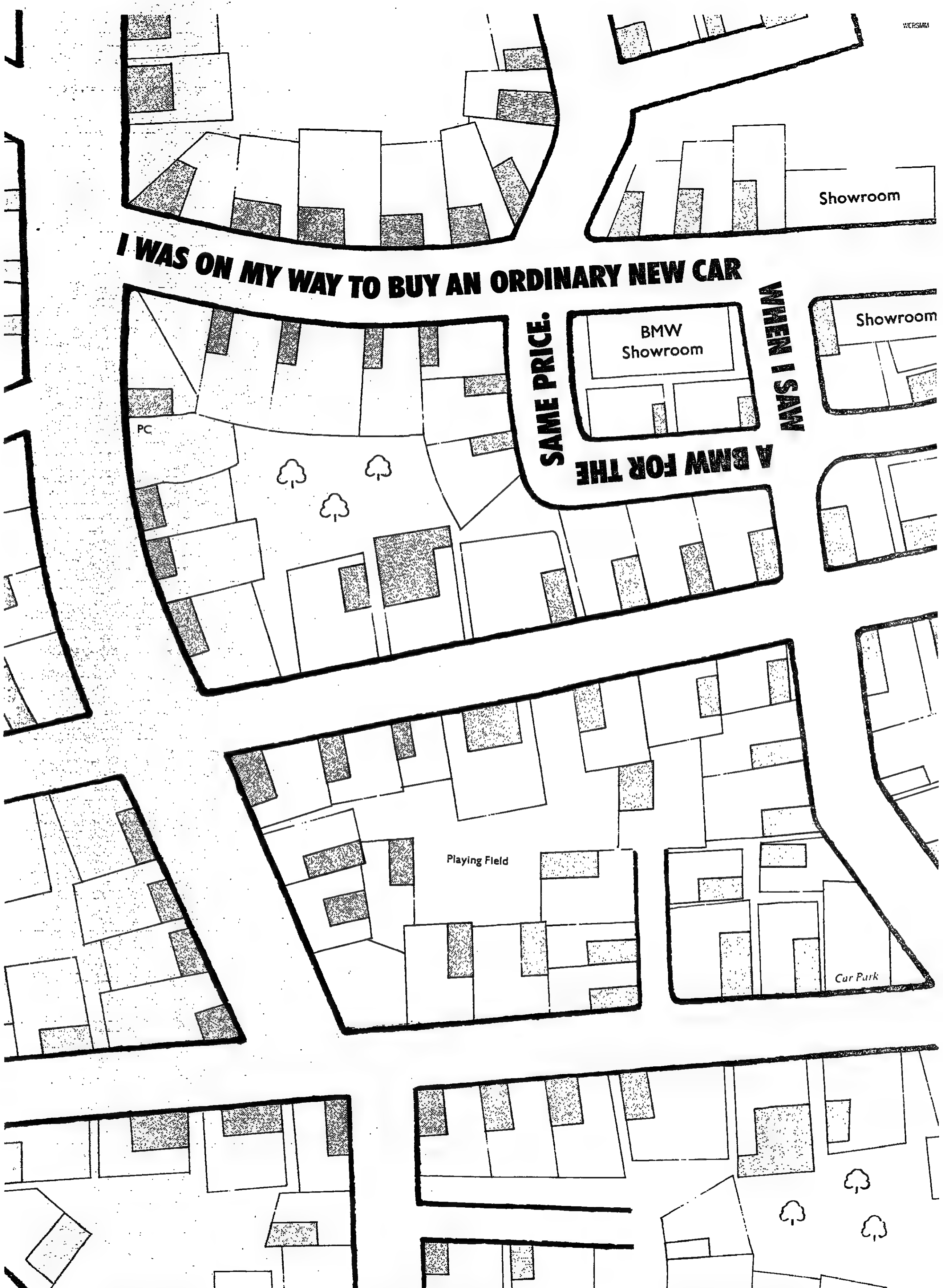
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BMW'S SIX YEAR ANTI-CORROSION WARRANTY IS SUBJECT TO ANNUAL INSPECTION.

RAF murders 'acts of callous barbarism'

The murder of three RAF personnel by the Provisional IRA was another manifestation of the callous barbarism to which the organization and its supporters were prepared to stoop, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, said in a Commons statement.

The victims had posed no threat to anyone. They were off duty, non-operational, in civilian clothes and in the Netherlands purely for recreation. "Their murder is nothing short of a crime against decency and humanity."

Steps had been taken to strengthen still further the security of British forces in Germany and the Netherlands. "We are considering what further security measures might be appropriate in the longer term, both there and elsewhere."

Other British overseas representatives were also maintaining a high state of vigilance. But normal life for servicemen and all other British representatives overseas must continue as far as practicable.

"They, like us, must be able to enjoy the benefits of the way of life which they are dedicated to maintain on behalf of the nation as a whole."

Mr Denis Davies, chief Opposition spokesman on defence, expressed the Opposition's total condemnation of the murder and maiming of the servicemen. "Murder cannot be justified or condoned wherever it takes place and there can be no shred of justification for the criminal attacks on these young men who were doing no harm to anyone."

Would the Government consider the security of married quarters in Germany and military establishments in Britain?

The distinctive number plates of the cars of British servicemen abroad made them easier to identify.

Would it be possible to replace them with personal identity cards containing the necessary legal and fiscal information so that the number plates could be perfectly neutral?

Would Mr Younger look at the effects for security of the proposals for freedom of movement and goods throughout the EEC by 1992? Would not these proposals make it more difficult

IRA ATTACK

to detect, control or deter terrorists?

Ultimately, the best tribute which could be paid to these young men would be to prosecute those who committed these crimes, to bring them to justice and punish them in accordance with due process of law.

Mr Younger said that he was grateful for Mr Davies's sincere expressions of sympathy and support for the Armed Forces.

The possibility of issuing German number plates had been considered several times, but it was not as simple as it seemed.

It would not necessarily make British servicemen's cars any harder to identify. Anything sensible or legal would be considered.

As far as 1992 was concerned, when the Government accepted the provisions of the Single European Act it had especially reserved the right to take such measures as it considered necessary to combat terrorism.

He asked for an assurance that there would be a Nato initiative to help the British Government to ensure that the IRA did not have any safe havens. An international campaign should be mounted against these terrorists.

Mr Younger agreed. There would be absolute unity among all parties and everybody about this matter.

He entirely agreed that international co-operation was, at the end of the day, the only way they could really make an impact on terrorism.

Mr James Molyneux, leader of the OUP, said that as a foundation member of the RAF Regiment, he would like to add to the expressions of sympathy to the injured and bereaved.

If these young men had been armed and if they had shot any of their assassins they would by now have been branded as murderers in advance of any court hearing or inquiry.

Was it, in the circumstances, any wonder if the security forces sometimes wondered whether they would ever be able to win the battle against terrorism?

Mr Younger said that he

was not sure that the Government would be the best placed to do so.

Could the House be assured that there would be the fullest co-operation with other Nato powers and other Nato forces so that there could be a common campaign to defeat terrorism on the Continent?

Mr Younger said that the Government would do all it could to involve Britain's Nato allies in the co-operation to defeat these terrorists.

It was having excellent co-operation from its friends in the Netherlands, which it greatly appreciated.

Mr Denis Campbell-Savours (Wokingham, Lab) said that the IRA was now planning a long-term and determined campaign of violence throughout the continent of Europe.

As that was clearly the IRA's intention, could the House have an assurance that the Prime Minister did not feel locked in by undertakings he had given to the House previously on the question of proposals for the future of Northern Ireland?

Mr Younger said that he did not think that question had a direct relevance to this particular matter of a deliberate and organized terrorist campaign against totally innocent people.

The Prime Minister and he and all MPs would join in repudiating that absolutely.

Mr James Kilgallon (North Down, DUP) called for condemnation of those politicians in Northern Ireland, the Irish Republic and Britain who equated the killing of these young, innocent, off-duty servicemen with the killing of the three IRA terrorists intent on the murder and slaughter of hundreds of people in Gibraltar.

Mr Younger said that he saw no link with anything else. When those who were totally innocent were murdered by terrorists, that was on its own and should be condemned on its own.

Mr Robert Macdonald, joint leader of the SLD, expressed his party's detestation of these crimes, sympathy for the bereaved and understanding of the feelings of the parents of one young Scot whose parents said that this was an utterly futile act.

It was also right at this time to repudiate the talk from some sources in Northern Ireland about the containment of vi-

Programme criticized

The Prime Minister criticized the showing of the Thames Television programme on the shooting of IRA terrorists in Gibraltar before the inquest had taken place.

Mr Harry Greenway (Killing North, C), during Prime Minister's questions, said that, given the doubts about the credibility of the *This Week* programme on the shootings, "there must be grave doubts as to the ability of the IRA to control a programme in which troops were tried and convicted on the basis of very dubious evidence."

Mrs Thatcher: "I share with him the concern about the decision of the IRA to show a film before the inquest had taken place."

She quoted from the report of the interdepartmental committee on the law of contempt as it affected tribunals, chaired by Lord Salmon: "One would not wish to see in this country the horror of trial by press, television and radio. We have so far escaped them only because of the high sense of responsibility on the part of the press, television and radio and because of the law of contempt."

She added: "I agree that on this occasion neither Thames Television nor the IRA demonstrated that high sense of responsibility to which the judge referred."

The Government was determined to take any measures necessary to ensure security within the UK.

The highest priority would be given to try to apprehend the culprits and everything possible would be done to achieve that.

Sir Antony Back (Colchester North, C) said that he was glad there was unanimity in the House on this subject.

Attack by cross-party group of peers

Ministers survive onslaught on national curriculum

The Government survived a revolt in the House of Lords against its plans to impose a mandatory national curriculum throughout all state schools.

An amendment to make the national curriculum discretionary rather than compulsory, tabled by a cross-party group of peers, was rejected by 218 votes to 144 - government majority, 74.

Lord Joseph, the former Conservative Secretary of State for Education and Science, voted against the Government because, he argued, the national curriculum of foundation subjects would place a straight-jacket on schools and teachers.

However, he said, he supported the compulsory teaching of three or four core subjects.

Lady Hooper, for the Government, assured peers that the Government had been at pains to make its proposals as flexible as possible.

The national curriculum would be phased in over a number of years, starting with the core subjects.

On the first day of the committee stage of the Edu-

cation Reform Bill, Lady David, chief Opposition education spokeswoman, moved an amendment in the name of herself, Lord Joseph (C), Lady Darcy de Knayth (Ind) and Lady Seear (SLD) that would make the national curriculum discretionary rather than compulsory.

Lady David said the supporters of the amendment were not seeking to destroy the concept of the national curriculum.

It was not a wrecking amendment. But it would remove the straight-jacket which Lord Joseph and other peers had referred to at second reading and would prevent the accumulation of unprecedented power in the hands of the present and future secretaries of state.

The amendment would leave intact the framework for establishing a national curriculum, but it allowed schools essential flexibility.

During the passage of the Education Act, 1986, the Earl of Swinton, the former Minister of State for Education, had said that such flexibility was the Government's aim.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary

of State for Education and Science, had said that it will be "all right on the day".

But peers were debating a legal framework which allowed the Secretary of State to impose detailed powers over what was taught, how it was taught and how it was tested.

Lord Joseph (C) said that he agreed with almost every part of the Bill except this clause.

Unless the Government agreed that only the three or four core subjects should be mandatory, then he would vote for this amendment.

But he would prefer his own amendment later on in the Bill which removed the foundation subjects from the mandatory provisions, leaving only the core subjects.

He had heard rumours that it would be difficult to make even the core subjects mandatory.

There should be a pause to see how the core subjects were implemented before making the decision about the whole of the curriculum.

He was concerned about non-academic children and also gifted children.

HOUSE OF LORDS



Lord Joseph: Call for pause to assess matters

He disabused intensely the thought that head teachers would have a straightjacket imposed on them as to what they taught their children.

He suggested that schoolchildren should also spend

longer hours at school and have longer terms as in most other north-west European countries and he hoped the Government would look at that.

Lady Seear, deputy leader of the Democratic peers, said the core subjects were being taught already in almost all schools without its being imposed.

If all the subjects were built into the legislation it would fix them there for all time or until they were altered by some other Act of Parliament.

Education was a growing and developing subject and it could be that in five years some of the subjects should be played down and others areas played up.

Viscount Eccles (C), a former Minister for Education, said there was no denying that too many boys and girls were failing to reach a level of proficiency in basic subjects and that they could reach it if they were better taught.

The amendment was an open door to negotiations with school board after school board. There was not the slightest

intention of telling teachers how to teach the subjects.

The main objection to the clause were those local authorities and schools who most needed to improve their results.

This was a wrecking amendment and it mutilated the power to carry out firmly and quickly the central purpose of the Bill.

Lord Callaghan of Cardiff (Lab), the former Prime Minister, said the foundation subjects should not be set in concrete. Flexibility was needed in the curriculum.

There was a desire or belief by some that the educational establishment was somehow incapable of facing these issues themselves. That was profoundly wrong.

For many years he had listened to Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone telling him that socialist belief in bureaucracy and wanted to ensure that everyone operated on the same pattern at the same time.

He dared all former Conservative MPs to vote for the amendments or they would be betraying every speech they had made.

Lady Young (C), a former education spokeswoman in the Lords, said it was a wrecking amendment because the national curriculum was a major part of the Bill.

Lord Joseph was being slightly disingenuous to deny that fact, but if the amendment was passed the Bill would become a travesty of what it was.

Lord Glessman (Lab), the former Secretary of State for Education and Science, said Britain's primary schools were probably the best in the world and imposing a national syllabus would not improve teaching.

It could depress standards because some teachers may be forced to teach a syllabus with which they did not agree. It was a fallacious argument that a mandatory national curriculum could raise standards.

Lord Belfort (C) said the amendment was a wrecking amendment that would tear out the heart of the Bill.

He appealed to Lord Joseph to remove his name from the amendment.

Hattersley taunts Thatcher over poll tax figures

If the Government had published, before the local elections on Thursday, figures showing how much poll tax would be paid in England, as it had for Scotland and Wales, the Tory Party would have to write off the English boroughs as it had already had to write off Scotland and Wales, Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Opposition, told the Prime Minister during question time.

Mrs Thatcher replied that if community charge was high it would probably be because of

PRIME MINISTER

extravagant spending by left-wing local authorities.

Mr Hattersley: Why does the Government refuse to publish figures which show the effect of poll tax on individuals in England when it has already published those figures for Scotland and Wales?

Mrs Thatcher: The actual figures of poll tax... (Labour laughter) - I call it community

charge - will depend very much, the amount which will be paid to local authorities for services, will depend very much on expenditure by local authorities nearer the time.

Mr Hattersley: She was able to overcome the difficulties, as well as her verbal confusions, for Scotland and Wales.

Mrs Thatcher: No.

If the community charge is very high, the chances are that it is because of high or extravagant expenditure by left-wing local councils.

The Finance Bill Government aims at 20p income tax

TREASURY

The Government's aim was to reduce the basic rate of income tax to 20p - "not rashly, not irresponsibly, not even necessarily speedily, but as soon as we prudently and sensibly can," Mr John Major, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said when the Commons began the committee stage of the Finance (No 2) Bill which implements the Budget.

The House was debating the clause which reduces the basic rate of income tax to 25 per cent and set a higher rate of 40 per cent. Mr Major said that, taken together, these clauses produced

a radical simplification of the personal income tax structure.

In 1979 the Government had inherited a system which included 11 rates of tax on earned income. This Bill carried the Government's progressive simplification further and established a system with only two rates of personal income tax, one of the simplest structures anywhere in the world.

These measures were central

to the Government's policy of tax reduction and reform. People knew better than governments how to spend their own money in their own interest and on their own behalf and should be enabled to do so.

They were likely to work more productively if they were not over-taxed and were allowed to keep a greater share of the rewards of harder work and greater productivity.

They would make less use of the tax shelters which were endemic to any high-tax regime and, crucially, they would be

more willing to take risks if they knew that successful risk-taking brought a worthwhile return.

These were all key factors in creating the culture for enterprise that was so essential to maintaining a growing economy.

The Government was rededicating the promise made in the Conservative election manifesto to reduce the basic rate of income tax to 25p. Lower taxes benefited millions of ordinary taxpayers and 23 million of them now had a marginal rate of 25p.

Levels of lead going down

A big decrease in air lead concentration throughout the country has followed statutory reductions of the maximum permitted lead content of petrol, Mr Colin Moydham, Under Secretary of State, Environment, said in a written Commons reply.

He said that in January 1986, the Government had reduced the permitted maximum by almost two-thirds and all new petrol-driven cars would be required to run on lead-free petrol from October 1990.

Studies by the Department of Environment had shown that levels, at 53 per cent average and 54 per cent near a motorway, were well below the EEC limit.

Bill would hit lawyers

Mr Austin Mitchell (Great Grimsby, Lab) was given leave under the 10-minute rule to introduce the Legal Profession (Abolition of Restrictive Practices) Bill.

His Bill would take all legal powers away from the Lord Chancellor and set up a Ministry of Justice. This would lead to the establishment of family courts, and delays and ensure the proper training of judges.

The rank of QC would be abolished. The convention requiring two counsel at £1,000 a day for a QC and £500 a day for a junior would be ended. Solicitors would get rights of audience in all courts. Barristers would be allowed to advertise, to sue solicitors for their fees and to set up anywhere.

The Bill has little chance of becoming law because of lack of parliamentary time.

Disputes with Japan

Mrs Thatcher will be raising with the Japanese Prime Minister points of strong disagreement between Britain and Japan, including more spaces for British firms on the Tokyo stock exchange, and British spirit exports to Japan.

Mrs Thatcher said this during question time when Mr Andrew Mitchell (Gillingham, C) welcomed the visit to Britain of the Japanese leader, Mr Noboru Takeshita, but asked her to make clear to him that what Britain required on free trade was action, not words.

British companies should have more places on the Tokyo stock exchange, and there should be an end to the discriminatory treatment against the importing of Scotch whisky.

Funds offered to partners

The Manpower Services Commission was launching a formal invitation today to all 57 urban employment areas to apply for development funding to back contacts between schools and employers. Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, told MPs at question time.

He said that there had been a good response to his announcement that the Government would back such contacts. He understood that about forty partnerships were working to prepare them.

Show firms

A conference is to be held at Centre Point, London, in September, hosted by the CBI and the English Tourist Board, to try to encourage more firms to open themselves up to visitors. Mr John Lee, Under Secretary of State for Employment, said during questions.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Legal Aid Bill, second reading. Debate on Rover Group. Immigration Bill, Lords amendments. Lords (2.30): Debates on productivity and on social security changes.

Tories are feeling effect of the early stages of mid-term blues

The local government elections on Thursday could hardly be coming at a worse time for the Conservatives. The disputes over social security, housing benefit and the poll tax have already had their effect on the opinion polls.

The latest MORI poll shows that the Conservative lead has dropped to 2 per cent and that the party is expected to do significantly worse in the local elections than it would at another general election. This impression is reinforced by what quite a number of Conservative MPs have been finding on the doorstep in their constituencies.

There has been a double effect from the spets of the past fortnight.

what they see as the unfairness of Government policies. More are saying these days that Mrs Thatcher is simply favouring the rich.

But there are others who seem even more concerned by the evidence of disunity in Conservative ranks. When so many Tory MPs are dissatisfied, why should the voters still be happy?

So the prevailing theme among Conservatives at the moment is to play down their chances in these elections. That may be a fair assessment of their prospects, but it is also shrewd politics.

It is the psychological effect of Thursday's results that will stir most, and that will be amplified by measuring the

outcome against expectations. A little calculated pessimism now may set the scene for claiming later that things are not so bad after all.

But there are some Tory MPs who are not too worried now. They are, indeed, concerned about particular groups of voters, such as pensioners and especially those who are also private tenants.

Yet in general these MPs claim not to have found so much disenchantment on the doorstep as they would have expected from the opinion polls.

That seems to be because, while there is naturally a general sense that the Government has not been doing well, most people have not noticed directly themselves.



Geoffrey Smith

What is happening, I suspect, is that while the country is in the early stages of mid-term blues,

there are various cross-currents at work. The Government has run into trouble relatively soon in this Parliament, but that was always likely to occur when so much contentious legislation was being cranked into the first year.

That strategic decision was in itself sensible, but the position has been complicated by a good deal of technical ineptness. The Government's difficulties are therefore greater than they need have been. But the history of Mrs Thatcher's second term should be a sufficient reminder that an instinct for human skins is not a fatal disability for an administration with strong nerves and a weak opposition.

There may well now be different levels of disaffection in

different parts of the country. The apparent collapse of the old Alliance vote may also have different consequences in different areas.

The polls tell us that in general Labour is benefiting from the drift away from the new SLD, the Social and Liberal Democrats, and from Dr Owen's SDP.

But in some places, especially where Labour nowadays presents so threat to anyone, this trend could be to the advantage of the Conservatives.

So there will probably be some seats which the Conservatives take from what was the Alliance, as well as others which the Conservatives lose to Lab-

I would expect there to be more in the second than the first category, but the balance between these trends will be significant.

It will also matter where Labour is able to increase its strength. Will it be where there are winnable parliamentary seats?

But the reactions to the results will be more important than the results themselves. Will the Conservatives lose their nerve and will Labour confidence be restored?

The morale of Conservative MPs seems so far to have withstood the tremors of the past few weeks rather well. (There is some relief that the

most contentious legislation has been sent up to the Lords, that the Government was prepared to make some concessions and that backbenchers were able to exercise some effective influence.

There will still be a wave of alarm if the results are really bad. But Conservative confidence will not suffer too much so long as Labour offers an ineffective alternative.

Labour has not been damaged much as yet by the leadership election, and I doubt if it will be.

The more severe test of party unity will come when the results of the policy review emerge. Labour will stand a better chance of passing that test if the local elections have restored its house of office.

SPECTRUM

What makes a British institution like Pearl Assurance suddenly an attractive takeover target? Pearson Phillips reports

Rich pickings on the doorstep

I was one of those scenes that always seem to happen over the kitchen table. "I've got something to tell you," she said. "I'm pregnant."

The man from the Pearl Assurance Company didn't seem too surprised. When you are selling insurance you develop a sense for these things. Babies are good for insurance salesmen. Many's the time he has knocked on a door just because he has seen a pram outside and come away with a slice of new business. Having babies makes people think about their responsibilities.

There has recently been a quickening of the pulse in the Pearl's magnificent domed and marbled headquarters in Holborn, London. With at least 95 per cent of its life insurance business coming from the personal approach of its own army of employed agents — as opposed to the many companies who largely rely on the more impersonal system of offering mighty commissions to independent salesmen — first signs are that Pearl is going to be one of the winners under the Government's much-publicized but little understood Financial Services Act, which came into effect last Friday.

One of the main requirements of the Act, designed to protect individuals from the ruthless marketing of unsuitable policies, is that all relevant information about a potential customer's financial and personal status should be known to the agent or broker before the most beneficial scheme is recommended, and no one scheme should carry a higher commission than another — thus negating the temptation to sell an inappropriate policy purely because the reward is greater.

Life insurance is big business. Already in Britain there are 80 million policies in force

— more than two-thirds of all households have one or more — and lump-sum commissions currently being paid to independent brokers are little short of the whole of the first year's premium. Thus the successful seller of a policy to, say, a man of 25 who agrees to a monthly premium of £100 can pick up an immediate reward of over £1,100 with around £1,800 to come later.

This accounted for the smile on the face of Pearl's Rosemarie Rouse. "Under a last-minute agreement it now seems that, with effect from January 1990, independent intermediaries must reveal the amount of commission they are being paid, while companies such as ourselves merely have to maintain commissions beneath an agreed limit," she said. "And whereas independent agents now offer the most beneficial policy, regardless of who pays them the highest commission, our people are only required to recommend from our own company range."

All of this suggests that Larry Adler, the Hungarian-born Australian entrepreneur, has done it again. Last January he announced that he had bought a 5.43 per cent stake in Pearl and has since increased it by another 1 per cent. The new financial regulatory regime now makes the Pearl look like an even riper cherry.

Among its rock-like assets, worth far more than the company's market value, is Michael Vince and a team of 4,500 other salesmen. Every month they enter two million homes in Britain. They are primed not just to sell insurance, but to spearhead a whole range of financial business,

from sorting out inheritance tax to getting a mortgage.

I joined Vince on his south London patch to watch how he does it. It was his fore-runners, selling peany policies from their bicycles throughout the last century, who built the Pearl into the massive thing it is today. They personified thrift and security in the pre-warfare state days.

Vince used to ride a bicycle himself when he started, 31 years ago. Now he patrols his area by Rover, and is among the Pearl's top men. His patch, one of London's sprawling areas of mixed council schemes and big Victorian terraces turned into flats, is called a "debit" in the jargon of the trade. That refers to the total amount he collects in life policy premiums: around £13,000 from 700 homes, once every four weeks. But don't they pay by bank or order? "Half my people don't have bank accounts," apart from that, I began to realize that they

liked having him call. We banged our first knocker at 9.30am. He has a special kind of "hallo" that ends on a rising, cheery note. The elderly Irish householder had her £35 premium ready folded between the pages of her receipt book. But she had more than that. "You know my sister, the one that lives in Cork. It was an awful thing that happened to her. Sixteen stab wounds the boy got. One funeral is bad enough, but didn't they have two, one in the country and one in the town?" Vince nodded, refused a cup of tea, and we left.

The next call was "one of my main jobs". For families with babies he has what he calls "a good door-opener".

The Pearl has a tie-up with the NSPCC. In exchange for a small donation parents get a child-care magazine. With this aid he had sold our next couple two policies last month. The question was, would they have gone cold on the idea?

They were on their way out as we called, and the man from the Pearl found himself taking one end of a push chair and easing it down the front steps while trying to keep all his policy documents under his other arm. But they paid up. "What you have to remember is that if I hadn't made that call that money wouldn't have been saved. It would have been lost to them."

He says he never calls on someone "cold". He likes a reason, such as seeing a house without curtains. "It means the house is empty. I wait until the new people move in and then go round to offer a house contents policy. The last time I did that I found the couple hadn't got any insurance at all, and came away with £100 a month worth of business."

Our last morning call was on a retired couple, George and Yvette, waiting in their council flat with coffee and biscuits. Vince had been part of their lives for 30 years, but the Pearl had figured in their finances since George's father took a policy in 1913. "I remember a nice man called Mr Stubbs, who called in his trilby hat and furred umbrella."

Conversation turned to how the estate had "gone down". But Vince was not letting them get away with that. "I told you long ago that you should buy this flat. Then you could sell it and be free to live where you want to. But you wouldn't listen to me."

Friendly advice has always been the Pearl's policy. This week it is a marketable asset.

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The dogs may demur, but Michael Vince, on his round in south London, should soon have their owners feeding out of his hand



A free child-care magazine is a useful addition to Vince's sales armoury: a baby is an open invitation to him to solicit custom



Out of the mist: how Legionnaires' disease spreads panic

The mysterious death of 29 veterans at an American Legion convention in a Philadelphia hotel 13 years ago first brought Legionnaires' disease to light. Before they died, the veterans appeared to suffer from a type of flu or pneumonia, with fever, aches and shivering, coughing, and shortness of breath. These are now recognized as classic symptoms of Legionnaires' disease.

Six months later, researchers showed that a hitherto unrecognized rod-shaped bacterium, now known as *Legionella pneumophila*, was to blame: it was later found that the disease had been misdiagnosed for at least 30 years before the Philadelphia outbreak because its symptoms were so similar to other diseases.

Since 1976, there have been a number

of outbreaks. The world's worst occurred in Britain, at Stafford District General Hospital in 1985, when more than 100 people contracted the disease and at least 29 died.

But the publicity over both this and the outbreak at the BBC this week masks the fact that the disease is rare, is rarely fatal, and is relatively easy to treat with antibiotics. In Britain only about 150 cases of Legionnaires' disease are diagnosed each year; about one in 10 proves fatal. Compare this with the 55,000 who die in Britain every year from pneumonia.

Those most at risk are the sick and elderly, whose ability to fight infection is low. "There are no reported cases of it being passed from patients to doctors."

Five cases were confirmed yesterday in the BBC outbreak. How common is the disease?

It's also not transmitted by drinking water," says Dr John Macfarlane, an expert on the disease, from the City Hospital in Nottingham.

The bacterium thrives in hot water at about 20-35°C, and is spread when the infected water is turned into a fine mist: for a person to become infected, the bacterium must be inhaled.

Some air conditioning systems pose a potential health threat because they use fine sprays of water in cooling towers to help large buildings lose heat through

evaporation. The risk of a major outbreak is compounded by the fact that many architects put the mist-laden outlets of the cooling towers close to air intakes. Bacteria emerging from the towers are sucked straight into the building, and rapidly spread from office to office, or ward to ward.

Last year, the Chartered Institution of Building Services issued guidance to its members reminding them of the need to design air conditioning systems that are easy to maintain, and minimize the risk of spread.

Ordinary anti-bacterial chemicals like chlorine can be used to keep air conditioning systems free of disease. But according to Dr Geoff Brundrett, a leading expert on building services from the Electricity Council Research Centre in Capenhurst, the trouble with many air conditioning systems is that they are too small to warrant a full-time maintenance team to clean them regularly. The result is a slow build-up of the bacterium in dirty air-conditioning plant.

Over the years there have also been fears that the bacterium could enter homes through the spray attachment on showers, leading to Legionnaires' disease striking down families. In 1985 the Government's Building Research Establishment at Garston found that

"there is now good evidence to implicate institutional hot water systems as a source of infection".

It suggested that that water should always be heated to 55°C before being cooled and supplied to taps and shower heads. However, the BRE warned that there would then be a danger of scalding. It concluded that "panic measures to avoid infection are unwarranted".

Macfarlane echoes these sentiments: "Although it catches the public eye and then when there is a spectacular epidemic, Legionnaires' disease is really quite uncommon, and not a thing people should be that worried about".

Robert Matthews

I.N.G.E.N.U.I.T.Y. Round Three

- Ingenuity is a general knowledge competition being played over 18 days with 10 questions a day. The authors of the first six correct entries to be opened at the end of the competition will each receive a set of the 1988 *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, in a blue Constitution binding, worth £2,280.
- The answer to each question is a single word or name — but the number of letters in the answers do NOT correspond with the number of boxes — except for the longest of them.
- The questions vary in difficulty. To some you may know the answers but mostly you will have to ferret them out.
- Cut out this coupon and keep it until the end of the contest

- Translator/poet buried at Boulogne on whose grave a Persian rose was planted.
- British Prime Minister who was baptised at St Andrews, Holborn, in July 1817.
- Number of horses to be seen in a Poussin in the Louvre, finished in 1664, that depicts Ruth and Boaz.
- Fish about which Ted Ensome and Greville Fennell were especially expert.
- Jean-Paul Sartre's organ-playing cousin, whose life-work was in Africa.
- Lake in Lapland from which a wrecked, obsolescent cruise missile was recovered.
- What the Shetlanders call a large, thieving seabird; also known as the Robber Bird.
- Minor character in Shakespeare who was a principal character for the writer Mary Renault.
- In which Shakespearean part did Ellen Terry make her debut at the age of nine?
- What became the married name of Miss Mayson, who had lived in the Epsom Grandstand in the 1840s and became a famous cook?

We are all marooned

Blue, traditional British passports are on their way out this summer

When the Home Office introduces the long-awaited European "Common Format Passport" this summer, it will herald the demise of what is widely believed in this country to be one of the most respected travel documents in the world: the British passport.

The new, maroon coloured EEC-style document, known as the "Common Format Passport", followed by the name of the member state in the required language. It may lack the distinctive character of the traditional British passport, but in the drive to create a single European market by

1992, aesthetics cannot be allowed to become a barrier.

The first copies of the new document will be issued from the Glasgow passport office in July, as the first step in an 18-month rolling programme which will phase out the traditional blue passport at the Liverpool office in January 1989, Belfast in April, Peterborough in July, Newport in October, and London by the end of next year.

The Home Office has spent £1.5 million on an automated production line at the HMSO printing works in Manchester, which is now ready to mass-produce the new document —



introduced by member states to symbolize their commitment to European unity.

Some member states, however, have been rather more eager to demonstrate this commitment than others. Following a Council of Ministers resolution adopted in June 1981, all member states were to have issued the European passport by January 1, 1985 "at the latest".

Three years on, only Britain and The Netherlands have yet to honour their undertaking (Spain and Portugal, because they are only recent members, are not required to introduce the passport until January 1989). As the Dutch government plans to introduce its Euro-passport in April, Britain will inherit the dubious distinction of being the last of the original subscribers to the 1981 resolution to act.

The Home Office has denied that Britain has been clinging to a symbol of sovereignty. "We are not in a competition to see who can introduce the European passport first". It insists that the reason for the delay is technical: Britain is perfecting the technology that will incorporate a laminated machine-readable page into the back of

the new document. This will enable prompt and precise identity checking at borders.

Legally, the harmonized passport will remain a national document. But there is considerable anxiety about how it will be received by the general public. Lord Bethell, Conservative MEP for London North West, said he was expecting "a cry of horror" when the first Euro-passports were introduced in July. "There is a great deal of sentimentality about the traditional British passport, which is widely felt to have universal influence and recognition. This is no longer the case," he said.

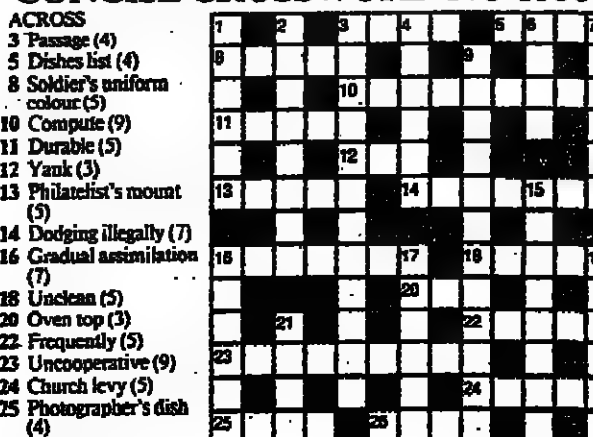
Acknowledging that the new passport lacks the aesthetic appeal of the current document, Lord Bethell emphasized that it will have considerable practical advantages. "The bearer will find it much easier to move across Community borders, in line with the drive to establish a frontier-less Europe by 1992," he said, although it is understood that British immigration officials will continue to insist on opening and checking every individual passport.

With "the political and economic weight of the European Community behind it", Lord Bethell is convinced that the new passport "will eventually become one of the most respected travel documents in the world".

Until then, the citizens of Europe can be assured that they run only the smallest of risks when offering their borderless-range pass to an official in an obscure country that has yet to hear of the harmonized EEC passport.

Michael Dyne

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1555



- DOWN
- Draw roughly (6)
 - Poison pot tree (8)
 - Earthquake yardstick (7,5)
 - Downpour (6)
 - Godbooks (4)
 - Variable (6)
 - Practical details (4,3,5)
 - Annoy (8)
 - Supernatural arts (6)
 - Artful (6)
 - Over there (6)
 - Lower leg front (4)
- SOLUTION TO NO 1554
- ACROSS: 1 Nouveau riche 9 Pedicab 10 Curse 11 Norm 12 Ad jutant 14 Fry 15 Mines 16 Gal 18 Commosor 20 Smug 22 In- set 23 Onions 24 Fideucik 26 Fideucik
- DOWN: 2 Orderly 3 Vice 4 Ambidexterous 5 Reservoir 6 Cites 7 Elect 8 Spinet 13 Immortal 16 Gimmick 17 Legend 18 Chief 19 Mused 21 Mazi



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TIMES DIARY

ALAN COREN

Let me heartily recommend *Broadcast News*. A little corker. A rattling good night out. A treat for film fans from nine to ninety.

Not mind, that *Wall Street* isn't almost as enjoyable. You will not go far wrong with *Wall Street*. Slick, sharp, pacy, and with a quite stunning bravura performance from Michael Douglas. On a par, I feel, with Sean Connery in *The Untouchables*. As for *Withnail and I* and *Moonstruck*, you will come out cheering from both. That, you will cry, is what cinema is about. Would I say these were masterpieces? I might not go that far. I might prefer to reserve that accolade for *The Empire of the Sun* or *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*. Although I do, of course, appreciate that for many filmgoers, *The Last Emperor* unquestionably takes this season's cinematic biscuit.

Not that I have seen any of them. I planned to see them this Bank Holiday, or even one of them, but nobody would let me in. I telephoned fourteen London cinemas, but nobody would know. Some that I could not reach by phone, I drove to, but the answer was the same. Clear off, sunshine. Please do not ask for a ticket as a refusal often offends. Do not force us to let the dog out. Do not make us whistle up the Old Bill. Left outside, watching the cheery queues shuffling forward in the cultural van, sharing in the great celluloid renaissance, all I could do was echo Henry Vaughan's plaintive mutter: "They have all gone into the world of light, and I alone sit lingering here."

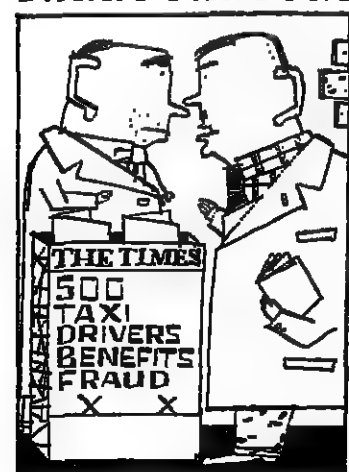
All I had asked for was a seat in which I might smoke.

These have now disappeared entirely. When I first became hooked on cinema, that other addiction was not merely tolerated, it was enthusiastically encouraged. Indeed, the two drugs were symbiotically entwined: not only could you smoke in any part of any cinema, the intermission advertisements urged you to leap from the crimson plush and replenish your nicotine stocks at the kiosk. Furthermore, the heroes with whom you identified in the smoky dark, and the heroines for whom you were encouraged to yearn, could hardly play a scene without lighting up. Most of the seminal lines of cinema were delivered while clouds plumed simultaneously from the nostrils just above. To spit youth, this defined adulthood. Who knows, perhaps if, in *Now, Voyager* Paul Henreid had not lit two cigarettes and passed one to Bette Davis, but instead offered her his half-licked wine gum, the whole history of modern coughing might have been different.

For me, this teenage imprint, eagerly stamped upon me by The Management, has meant that for the past thirty years I have not been able to watch a film without smoking. For the past dozen, creeping apartheid has meant that I have been driven into ever-smaller enclosures as the cinema progressively eroded the freedom it once offered, but I have still been able to see the view, as it were, from the back of the bus. Since Christmas, however, the ban would appear to have become absolute. The cinema is now closed to me. It is a lesson to all persecuted minorities: yield an inch, and there will be ell to pay.

I do not know what the answer is. Health fascism is in the saddle, and the Curries are booted and spurred. And please do not plague me or the Editor with po-faced correspondence about what is intolerable for you or good for me. I am well aware that I am killing all of us. If there were any mercy upon which I were going to throw myself, though, it would come from the cigarette manufacturers: since they seem to sponsor everything else, might they not be persuaded to build a few comfy smoking areas somewhere beyond the main, in which hapless addicts could be shown the latest films? I do not, you will notice, ask the government to subsidise this, in the way that they subsidise other minority needs. After all, I have paid them hardly more than £10,000 in tobacco tax over the years, and you don't get much for that, these days.

BARRY FANTONI



"I've mixed feelings. You could always be sure to pick up a cab outside the DIPS"

While the splenic dander is up, let me get something else off my wheezing chest.

At 4.40 a.m. on Sunday, I dialled 142 with an urgent directory enquiry. It was engaged. It remained engaged through a dozen attempts. At 4.55, I rang the operator in the hope of being patched through, but the operator could not raise them, either. So I knocked the pillow about a bit, and stared at the ceiling.

How could this be? While I have long grown used, since privatisation, to being unable to contact directory enquiries during the hours in which they might expect to be needed, how on earth could they be permanently engaged on a Sabbath dawn when they are needed hardly at all? However skeletal the staffing, it must surely be able to cope with a demand this minuscule?

The only possible explanation is that thousands of subscribers unable to get through at any other time set their alarms at 4.40 on Sunday expressly in order to try to prise from directory enquiries the numbers over which they have been frustrated all week. They squat there, crust-eyed and bristled, struggling to muster enough spittle to lick their pencils and dialling their forefingers raw in the battle for information. It's really rather impressive that, despite this tenacity, British Telecom still manages to remain one jump ahead of them.

The turbulent yet remarkably well-disciplined Polish strikers in the heavy industrial fortresses of Nowa Huta and Gdansk now pose a serious challenge not only to the tarnished leadership of General Jaruzelski but to the whole future of Mikhail Gorbachev's Communist reform programme.

When the workers demanded not only wage increases, but the reinstatement of Solidarity, the alarm must have sounded in the Kremlin. By demanding higher wages to compensate for the massive price increases announced in February, the workers are rejecting a reform that seems to them to be based solely on raising prices and ending subsidies on food and consumer goods. Sacrifice, in the name of reform, is demanded by the same leadership that imposed martial law and banned Solidarity.

The Polish leadership, obsessed for so long with daily crisis management, has failed to build up a proper relationship between work and money. Workers are still ill-managed, badly deployed and excluded from key investment decisions. Money, in a country of empty

Roger Boyes on how Poland's problems could damage Gorbachov

Threat to Soviet reforms

Shelves, has little meaning. Shipyard and steel workers do not benefit from new opportunities for private enterprise or market-orientated changes; they have no chance to moonlight or earn black market dollars on the side.

The workers have had enough. For them "reform" is no different from the "non-reform" era of Edward Giersek in the 1970s: price rises and queues and shortages are a constant; the only variable is the rhetoric.

General Jaruzelski has been hailed as the first among equals in the Soviet Bloc. This recognizes the fact that the Soviet leader and the Polish generals are of the same generation and share the same distaste for capitalism. But it is more than a personal relationship; the future of Soviet reform is linked to the management of the Polish crisis. Poland is trying to calibrate economic

change and political liberalization in some way ahead of the Soviet Union; but its current failures are also Soviet failures.

Previous price rises in Poland have been accompanied by "compensation" payments but money is no longer enough. There has to be active participation by the workers in both factory and political decisions. They must be allowed to choose the form of organization that expresses their views: a union, a workers' council that must also be able to hold the authorities to account should they renege on any given deal. When Solidarity activists pushed for pluralism this is what they meant.

The acid test of reform in the Soviet Union or its allies is how far the Communist Party will go towards ceding power. There has never been — apart perhaps from the wildest Solidarity meetings

of late 1981 — a desire to oust the Communists. Rather, somehow, the party has to be educated towards sharing power; it must learn to form coalitions and live with the compromises. For too long Solidarity has been regarded as an "opposition" and not as a partner.

The positions of Mr Gorbachev and General Jaruzelski are not identical. The Soviet leader faces a nationalities problem, partly aggravated by glasnost which allows freer expression, and partly manipulated by his Brezhnevite opponents. The Kremlin critics of reform can accuse him of trying to unravel the Soviet empire. General Jaruzelski is spared that headache.

Mr Gorbachev also has a far less volatile working class. Strikes occur rarely in the Soviet Union and almost always for

material reasons, such as a curtailment of holiday pay or higher work quotas. There was never any real danger of the Polish revolution of 1980-81 spilling across the border to the Soviet Union. That, then, is the good news for the Kremlin. But even a quiescent workforce can shout if pushed hard enough.

Workers with even mumbled complaints about prices can be exploited by politicians who, in an attempt to discredit Mr Gorbachev, claim to be the true voice of the working class. This was a device used by the Polish hard line communist opponents to General Jaruzelski's modest reforms. So, for different reasons, and from different pressures, Mr Gorbachev and General Jaruzelski have been put on the spot by this week's turmoil in Poland.

Can Mr Gorbachev go beyond

his limited ideas of worker self management and permit an articulate working class, constructively critical of his reforms? And can Poland show him the way? The Polish crisis is much more subtle than in 1980-81. Then the overriding question was whether the Soviet Union would invade to prop up the Polish communists. Now a new form of social contract has to be devised that would improve the state of the workers in the workers' state.

The alternative — sending in the police or the army to beat up the workers, or trying to bribe them into silence — spells doom for Mr Gorbachev's plans.

General Jaruzelski has shown himself adept at creating safety valves — consultative councils, a civil rights ombudsman, an erratically liberal consensus — that have not really tackled the fundamental problem of workers who have a mind of their own and separate interests from those of the state.

Whatever the outcome in Gdansk, the Soviet Bloc governments must learn, from today, the language of the governed, the foreign tongue of an aggrieved working class.

William Wade

Let their Lordships loose

Britain's leading constitutional lawyer, Sir William Wade, considers the arguments for and against the Lords siding with the poll tax rebels

In 1671 and 1678 the House of Commons adopted two resolutions asserting its exclusive privilege in fiscal legislation. The later of these declares "that all aids and supplies, and aids to His Majesty in Parliament, are the sole gift of the Commons; and all Bills for the granting of any such aids and supplies ought to begin with the Commons; and that it is the undoubted and sole right of the Commons to direct, limit and appoint in such bills the ends, purposes, considerations, conditions, limitations and qualifications of such grants, which ought not to be changed or altered by the House of Lords".

The House of Lords has in general acquiesced in this claim, which is the basis of the constitutional convention that financial legislation may not be amended by the Upper House. The Lower House, for its part, accepts that a financial bill may be rejected by the Lords in toto.

Rejection, however, ceased to be practical politics after the crisis of 1860 over Gladstone's Paper Duty Repeal Bill. Since then the taxation provisions for the year have been rolled up together in a single finance bill, which the Lords cannot reject without wrecking the government of the country.

Their ill-advised opposition to Lloyd George's Finance Bill of 1909 brought disaster upon them in the form of the Parliament Act 1911, passed under the threat of a mass creation of peers, which provided that if the Lords failed to pass a "money bill" without amendment within one month, it could become law without their assent. For other bills the period allowed was two years, since reduced to one year by the Parliament Act 1949. Thus did the Lords lose their right to reject

money bills, having long previously lost the right to amend them. But now the poll tax, alias the Local Government Finance Bill, is to come before their lordships in interesting circumstances. In the first place, it is not wrapped up in an annual finance bill — it comes naked and alone. In the second place, it is not a "money bill" under the Act of 1911, since that Act expressly excludes bills dealing with "any taxation, money or loan raised by local authorities or bodies for local purposes". So the Lords would be within their strict constitutional rights if they were to reject the bill outright, though it could then be passed over their heads with a year's delay. But are they within their rights if they try to amend it, as by making the rate of tax vary according to ability to pay?

Paradoxical as it seems, it is the Lords' loss of power under the Parliament Acts which makes it possible to argue that they now have more power than they had before. The Parliament Acts, it could be said, represent a "final solution" of the problem in black and white terms which turn the whole matter into one of positive law and replace the former conventions. Can there still be room for conventions, indefinite in detail and unenforceable in law, when the situation is precisely regulated by statute? And does not the Parliament Act, in speaking of the Lords' failure to pass a bill "without amendment or as may be agreed by both Houses", imply that the Lords may pass it with amendments, hoping that the Commons may agree and taking the risk that they may resort to their overriding powers



under the Act? Unfortunately for all such arguments, it was also provided in 1911 that "nothing in this Act shall diminish or qualify the existing rights and privileges of the House of Commons". That clause, to which the Lords themselves assented, is indisputable proof that the Act was designed to reinforce, but in no way to displace, the traditional Commons privilege.

The Commons, moreover, seem always to have maintained that their privilege extended to local as well as to national taxation, so that bills about rates, and about any local tax replacing them, would be claimed to be immune from amendment by the Lords. The Parliament Act's narrow definition of "money bill" is irrelevant in this context.

Of course, everything that the

House of Commons claim need not necessarily be right — history shows that they have themselves been guilty of unconstitutional action, as when in 1840 they prevented the enforcement of a lawful judgement against Hansard by imprisoning the sheriff whose duty was to enforce it. But in this case local rates, and likewise the poll tax, would seem to fall squarely within the principle upon which the Commons' claims are founded, which is simply "no taxation without representation". Taxation is the exclusive prerogative of the elected House. This is more than an internal rule of Parliament: it is an accepted constitutional convention.

But that is by no means the end of the story. One of the beauties of constitutional convention is that there may be

occasions, if judiciously chosen, when it can be breached. And where, furthermore, does the point of breach come? There have been many occasions in Parliament's history when the Lords have in fact returned bills to the Commons with amendments which the Commons have rejected as being in breach of their privilege.

But there have been many occasions, also, when the Commons have waived their privilege and accepted the amendments. Erskine May's *Parliamentary Practice*, the parliamentary bible, relates the case of the Unemployment Insurance (No 2) Bill in 1919, when the Lords returned a message to the Commons insisting on amendments which the Commons had rejected on grounds of privilege. "Instead of ordering the reasons

given by the Lords for insisting on their amendments to be laid aside, or deferring their consideration for three or six months, which was then held to be the correct procedure, the Commons did not insist on disagreement with the amendments, but proposed amendments to certain of them, to which the Lords agreed." The same learned work informs us that since 1968 the Commons have used a standard formula for waiving their privilege and that "such waiving is commonplace".

Coming still closer to the case of the poll tax, we read that "The Commons now generally waive their claim regarding amendments made to Bills that they have sent to the Lords, dealing with municipal, county and local rates and assessments". On three occasions, in 1838, 1847 and 1849, "the Commons waived the exercise of their privilege and considered amendments made by the Lords, which, not only by the omission of provisions, but by direct enactment, changed the area, and therefore the burden, of local taxation and imposed rates higher than the rates fixed by the House of Commons".

Since that time the power of the Commons has grown at the expense of the Lords, but not so as to destroy the spirit of cooperation which still operates so as to smooth out difficulties. Face-saving procedures have been devised whereby the Commons nominally maintain their privilege while at the same time being prepared to waive it.

The rules of constitutional propriety are not therefore so strict in practice as they appear in theory. It seems to be accepted that Lords amendments of fiscal bills are not normally regarded outright as unconstitutional, but are considered on their merits by the Commons who may either assert or waive their privilege. Under these tolerant rules the Lords may consider themselves entitled to "have a go" with the poll tax — and see what happens.

Commentary • WOODROW WYATT

State of depression

David Remnick of *The Washington Post* recently reported from Moscow on the effect on ordinary Soviet citizens of Mr Gorbachev's reforms. "There's no change at all in the stores," said one woman shopper, unwilling to give her name because free speech remains a commodity to be handled gingerly. The shortages, the long queues and the miserable quality of the produce are as bad as ever.

Another housewife said they were worse for fruit or vegetables. Lemons are a rarity. "If you hear a rumour someone is selling Egyptian lemons you drop everything and you go out and buy a lot of them, hoard them. And then months go by and you don't hear about lemons again." Potatoes are abundant and there are a few greens and root vegetables but little else. Outside Moscow the food shortage is yet more intense. In Rostov butter is rationed, and sugar in the Ukraine.

A bold economist writing in the journal *Noviy Mir* says the situation in the produce and consumer markets has not only not improved but deteriorated. There are the same lines in the stores and empty shelves as before. The shortages and the shoddy quality apply way beyond food to all types of goods consumers want. The official *Literaturnaya Gazeta* estimates that 65 billion man hours are spent every year by shoppers "eaten up by nervous tension while standing in lines".

Attempts are being made to improve factory goods but during this process production slows down, making even fewer goods available. This, paradoxically, could be a sign of better things to come when Soviet industry has had a shake out. There is no doubting Gorbachev's desire to

create a higher standard of living.

But Gorbachev is a Communist, or if he is not he cannot say so or act other than in the Soviet Communist tradition. You cannot match the rewards of private enterprise in the Western industrial democracies if you do not believe in free enterprise. Gorbachev, in *perestroika*, referred with nostalgic sympathy to Lenin's New Economic Policy which was destroyed when Stalin took power in 1924. The mild success of the Economic Policy, which allowed elements of free enterprise at lower levels, was largely due to its still being a familiar concept. More than 60 years later it is distinctly unfamiliar and it does not seem that Gorbachev has anything like a market economy in mind.

On March 25, 1988, Gorbachev spoke to the congress of collective farmers. He warned them that the over-development of farming co-operatives had "led to many peasants cutting down on subsidiary plots". Gorbachev wanted more of these, as well he might. The small, privately-owned plots occupy around 3 per cent of the arable land in the Soviet Union. They produce 60 per cent of the nation's potatoes, more than 40 per cent of its eggs and fruit and about 30 per cent of meat, milk and vegetables — in all over 25 per cent of the country's food.

Logically, Gorbachev should break up all the collective farms and distribute them among private farmers. The food shortages would turn into an abundance of high quality food and Russia would become a grain-exporter, as it was when the Tsars ruled. But he does not believe in free enterprise, merely in tinkering with the problem at the edges.

Abel Aganbegyan, Gorbachev's chief economic adviser, has written a book, *The Challenge: Economics of Perestroika*, just published in Britain. In it he describes *perestroika* as "a transition from an economy of shortages... to an economy of social production oriented to the satisfaction of social needs, working to the demands of the consumers and ending all shortages".

As there is to be no competition among entrepreneurs, or in labour or in farming, there will be no way consumers can signal their demands, as they will have nothing to choose from. Worthy committees deciding what consumers want hardly ever get it right. Worthy committees trying to direct and control investment in industry are always disastrous. Worthy committees appealing to the social instincts of the people to put service to the state above personal gain get nowhere.

If this is all *perestroika* is about it will do little to improve the economy. Here and there there may be a few more shoes in the shops and a few more dresses with slightly more attractive designs. The supply of motor cars will not rise much above its present abysmally low level. As there is to be no private house building, families with more than the norm of two rooms will still be members of the tiny privileged elite Communist class.

On the course Gorbachev is charting Russia cannot possibly become rich or anywhere near equal Western Europe, Taiwan, South Korea or the United States in industrial efficiency. This may be a solace to those who fear the consequences of economic success added to Soviet military might. I find it depressing.

SCIENCE REPORT

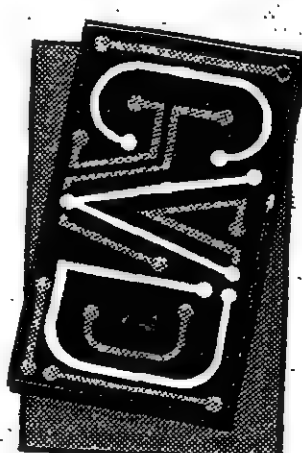
Crystal set

Tokyo Japanese researchers claim an important new development in the application of the new copper oxide superconductors by a technique for producing thin films of the new materials. The method, called Chemical Vapour Deposition (CVD), may open the way to mass production of superconducting wires and micro-electronic devices made from the new materials.

CVD is the cornerstone of the semiconductor industry — everything from single crystal wafers of silicon and gallium arsenide up to the complex layers of semiconductors, metals and insulators in very large-scale integrated circuits is mass-produced by using this technique.

But only in the past few weeks have Japanese researchers adapted the technique to the new superconductors. In March, a team at Tohoku University and Eiken Corporation, headed by Professor Toshio Hirai, succeeded in coating a wide variety of inert materials, including a chrome-nickel coil, with films of yttrium-barium copper oxide. And in mid-April, Fujitsu made a film of bismuth-strontium-calcium-copper oxide.

Fujitsu's achievement is particularly remarkable as the bismuth-based superconductors were discovered only three months ago. Fujitsu's wafer-thin film is mounted on a backing of magnesium oxide and covers an area of 38mm square, but is only 0.3 thousandths of a millimetre thick. But the company also claims



John Lawson

that the film consists of a single crystal formed in such a way that the crystal planes of the magnesium oxide and the superconductor are matched and perfectly aligned.

In Fujitsu's method, vapourized compounds of bismuth, copper, calcium and strontium, with elements such as chlorine, are carried by inert helium gas along a quartz tunnel to a chamber where chemical reactions occur in an atmosphere of oxygen, helium and water vapour, when the superconducting crystallites on the magnesium oxide.

Dr Norman Waterman of QUOTE-TEC Ltd., in Tokyo, as head of a British mission of superconductor researchers, describes Fujitsu's development as "highly significant". But the final proof, Waterman says, will be when Fujitsu determines the current-carrying capacity of its film. If the film is truly a single crystal, it should be capable of carrying

close on a million amperes of current for each square centimetre of cross section, which means that the film Fujitsu has already made should carry a large fraction of 1,000 amperes in a direction parallel to the surface.

Companies such as Nippon Telegraph and Telephone and IBM have already made single crystal films of the yttrium-based superconductors by using physical vapour deposition techniques in which component elements of the film are "sputtered" off a target by bombardment with electrons or ions, but these techniques are less amenable to commercial applications and the mass production line.

In Japan, the first applications of the new superconductors will be in micro-electronic devices, perhaps in entirely novel hybrid devices using semiconductor and superconductor. Technical difficulties limit the usefulness of physical vapour deposition techniques for making the devices with several different functional layers.

Films made by CVD, on the other hand, are superconducting when deposited and so do not require other special treatment, while their crystal orientation can be controlled by adjusting conditions in the reaction chamber, giving these at Fujitsu and Tokoku confidence that they will be able to make multi-layer devices. But for the time being, Professor Hirai is concentrating on perfecting the production of single-crystal films.

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THE LOCAL VOTE

Local elections should be about local issues. Almost invariably they are not, taking instead the form of a quick comment on current sentiment about the central government. Tomorrow's elections are likely to be no exception and if there is a swing in real terms, against the Conservatives it will reflect the unpopularity of the Government in recent months as a consequence of the changes in social security benefits, the community charge and NHS financing.

Some who would now be Conservative supporters in a general election may well feel free to cast a protest vote against the Government in the belief that no harm will be done to their own interests or to the longer-term prospects of the Government itself. That, however, is the wrong way to look at it.

Local elected government (as distinct from delegated local administration) is pointless unless it is genuinely responsible to local people. They must see some point in calling it to account for its policies. The chief merit of the community charge is that it is designed to give precisely such a stimulus to local electoral accountability. Voters should remember this when marking their ballot papers.

They should recall too the performance of their local authorities in dispensing public money over the years and the improvidence and folly which has guided so much Labour local spending. They should acknowledge that, to the extent that there has been greater financial realism and lower rates in some Labour local authorities, the credit has been due to the actions of the central government, through rate-capping and in other ways, in enforcing a greater degree of local financial realism. They might even regard tomorrow's elections as a kind of mental dress-rehearsal for the attitudes requisite for a different system of local finance in the 1990s.

This said, the political reality is that voting (or abstaining as a political act) will be largely a response to the Government's recent policy problems, the rebelliousness of Tory backbenchers being taken as a licence to follow suit. The voting figures afterwards will largely be read in terms of national politics.

The central fact of British politics now is that

there is no general disposition to replace Mrs Thatcher's politics with what Labour has stood for during the past two decades. That is why Mr Kinnock is trying to make his party accept a socialist version of market politics. It is above all why Dr Owen, the most enthusiastic opposition acceptor of the benefits of Thatcherism, has stayed with his shrunken SDP rather than join the Democrats.

Yet there is discontent with the Government over details and a temptation to inspect the other parties for signs of a willingness to retain the basis of Mrs Thatcher's reforms with more emotive characteristics. The centre Alliance has collapsed as a result of Mr David Steel's ruthless marriage of the Liberals and the old SDP majority. This has given Mr Kinnock and his colleagues even greater incentive to bid for the centre ground.

Even some of the more fundamentalist sections of the party are encouraged to soft-peddle their angry socialism. They dislike what Mr Kinnock is doing but know that a fourth defeat for their party could jeopardize its very place in the world of real politics.

The collapse of the centre has other consequences too. So long as it was in real business there was at least an outside possibility that the new moderate unions such as the AEU and the EEUPT might have felt impelled towards some sort of arrangement with it. That is now impossible. Dr Owen, for the moment, as his party political broadcast so painfully displayed the other night is a one-man band, and the Democrats are fundamentally unconvincing. The moderate unions have nowhere but Labour to go and their presence will strengthen those who would moderate its policies.

Yet Labour's coherence would hardly survive the attacks of the left on its moderates if it edged into power in 1991-92. If voters insist on voting in terms of national politics, the only choice they have is between Conservatives and Labour. A protest vote for Labour now is a dangerous tactic. It could give Labour undue plausibility. Mr Kinnock is trying to produce more attractive policies, but there is nothing to suggest that the strife-laden realities within the party have truly changed for the better.

IN AND OUT OF LEBANON

In the occupied West Bank and Gaza, Israel has been enforcing curfews, deporting Palestinians and restricting access by reporters. On Monday, it sent nearly 2,000 troops into southern Lebanon to search for Palestinian guerrilla bases. The troops are still there. It is already being said that this is all an attempt to frustrate incipient peace efforts.

That is to be too cynical. The experience of six years ago has given Israel good reason for circumspection before embarking on so large an operation in Lebanon. Rather, it must be assumed that Israel's intentions were above all military and directed, as Israel said they were, to rooting out Palestinian terrorists.

Over the past four months, Israel has suffered repeated guerrilla attacks from Palestinians across its northern border. The increased frequency suggests that the guerrillas have become bolder and now enjoy greater protection from local people than they used to. Earlier, smaller cross-border raids by the Israelis failed to deter infiltrators, and last week two Israeli soldiers were killed during the capture of two such groups in the border area.

In its condemnation of Israel's latest action, the Foreign Office voiced the views of many when it said that the recent guerrilla activity demonstrated the ineffectiveness of Israel's so-called security zone in southern Lebanon, and called for it to be dismantled. Israel, it said, should abide by UN resolution 425.

For Israel, however, the problem is one of national security, and is one that no existing UN resolution addresses satisfactorily. The reduced efficacy of the security zone means, in Israeli terms, only that it needs reinforcement, and the recent spate of attacks have illustrated

what Israel already knew: that the borders, as at present drawn, are not secure and the United Nations peace-keeping force, Unifil, is not effective.

The Israeli Government has additional political reasons for showing its strength in southern Lebanon just now. The continuing unrest in the occupied territories has led some Israelis to doubt their Government's ability to deal with it. The incursion into Lebanon sends a message both to them and to the restive Palestinians that Israel's resolve is as firm as ever.

Israel will also have been concerned to act against the Palestinians of southern Lebanon before the PLO was able to regain too much ground there. The PLO is currently fighting to control the refugee camps in Lebanon, and the rapprochement between the PLO and Syria could, in the long run, not only strengthen the PLO's position in Lebanon, but alter the emphasis of Syria's peace-keeping role there.

Israel's return to southern Lebanon has international repercussions which cannot be ignored, however. Some countries will certainly draw the conclusion that Israel is not content to remain within its current borders. It will also encourage those who believe that Israel has no interest in any compromises that could lead to peace in the region.

The only way for Israel to counter this impression is to ensure the operation is no more than it says it is: a search for guerrilla bases in the border area. Its withdrawal from Lebanon in 1985 should have taught it that a prolonged stay is politically and diplomatically unwise. Getting in to Lebanon is much easier than getting out.

BLACK CABS

A stock character of working class folklore is the taxi driver or dispatch rider with a perfectly satisfactory income — up to £300 a week in the case of some London dispatch riders — who none the less draws the dole. The conclusion widely drawn, both by working class folklore and by free-market economists, is that plenty of people on the unemployed register are not in fact unemployed.

That finding has tended to be unwelcome to more traditional social science. Such authority has tended to dismiss the evidence for widespread dole fraud as "anecdotal". That dismissal alone should have been enough to arouse suspicion. People trying to prove a point rely on statistics, macro-economics and bad sociology only when they cannot offer any anecdotes.

More than 500 West Midlands taxi drivers — one in ten of all the taxi drivers in the region — have just been caught profitably driving their taxis, and drawing the dole at the same time. This is a triumph for all believers in anecdotal evidence — that means of conveying information which has been perfectly acceptable to all previous civilizations, and which should not be discarded just because ours has invented statistics.

It may be objected that the Department of Employment's announcement about the West Midlands 500 — and the £500,000 which the discovery is said to have saved the taxpayer — is itself just a lot of statistics. But the original belief in the existence of fraudulent taxi drivers — which caused the department to launch its investigation to trap them — was not derived from statistics. The statistics were the outcome of the original belief. The department acted because of its suspicions about certain taxi drivers — suspicions aroused by the anecdotes from consultants which its ministers hear in their capacity as MPs.

It is a slight misnomer to call those taxi-drivers part of the black economy. So long as taxation, the closed shop and unionization held the official economy in their grip, the black economy was the only means by which many would-be employees could find work and many would-be consumers of labour could find people to work for them.

Today's lower rates of taxation make the situation rather different. The taxi drivers — and the 118 dispatch riders recently prosecuted in London — are not in the tradition of the black economy but of the fraudulent economy. The rest of society was losing far more than it gained from their activities. The statistics, as always, should be treated cautiously, but it looks as if £60 million was saved last year by stopping unemployment fraud.

The Government frequently gets into trouble in the Commons, and on television, for refusing to allocate sums such as £60 to various worthy causes. It is in its own political interests — as well as more importantly in the interests of the taxpayers — to carry out more operations similar to the one in the West Midlands.

When the Conservatives were in Opposition in 1974-79, the then Sir Keith Joseph used to get into trouble, not least from his more electorally nervous shadow cabinet colleagues, for suggesting that the official unemployment figures greatly exaggerated the numbers who were truly out of work. Some of the categories of which he complained — such as certain retirees and students — have now been taken off the register. But who knows how many more should not be there? Compiling statistics — from raw material as changing and resourceful as human beings — is an inexact science. Fortunately, there is hunch, suspicion and anecdote to help ministers discover what is really going on. They should make more use of them.

Gibraltar killings and rule of law

From Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, QC, MP for Perth and Kinross (Conservative)

Sir, In his article (April 30) defending the broadcast of the notorious *This Week* programme Mr Roger Bolton, the editor, prays in aid as his motive his concern for the rule of law, while Lord Thomson of Monifieth (report, April 30) justifies his decision to allow the broadcast as "responsible". No two more facetious claims could be made.

The rule of law lays down stringent rules of evidence to ensure that enquiry is fair. First, both parties know the identity of all witnesses in advance and can do so investigate their character and background and the accuracy and worth of their prospective testimony.

The evidence given by the witness can be examined by either side to call or discredit both the evidence and its author. That evidence is given on oath against the ever-present condign penalties for perjury. It is subject to the strictest rules — it must be relevant, competent; it cannot be hearsay or opinion (except in exceptional circumstances) and, most important of all, it must be given in reply to open questions and not the assent to leading propositions.

Once given, the witness and the testimony are subject to cross-examination and comment. The jury hears the witness for the first and only time, subject to these strict rules.

Compare the television "evidence" of M/s Carmen Proetta. Her character and background are unknown to the viewer. They were unrevealed, uninvestigated, untested. We do not know if she has a motive to give her version. We do not know if she brought herself to the programme's attention or what the team's version of events was when they started and how it altered.

Both she and her "evidence" were untested and unchallenged. Her account was edited by the most crass, leading questions and no court of law would have allowed a jury to hear or even consider it. The most junior advocate could have demolished her, and her evidence.

Visual impressions are indelible and deliberate attempts to forget are not only impossible but all attempts to suppress experience serve only to recall it.

The IBA has been weighed in the balance and found guilty. The thrust of the programme invited revenge. The IRA have taken revenge. Never again must a

broadcasting authority be allowed to squint justice and public opinion. The law of Scotland punishes editors who publish any material which may prejudice future proceedings in court with huge fines and imprisonment. It should be the law of all nations. Yours faithfully,

NICHOLAS FAIRBAIRN, House of Commons.

From Mr Bruce Harris Sir, If we assume (a) that any government opposed to terrorism and using a force such as the SAS in its fight is likely to operate a "shoot to kill" policy; (b) that no government is ever going to admit to such a policy being adopted; and (c) that no judicial tribunal is ever likely to find that such a policy is or has been operated, we shall probably be on safe ground.

We shall certainly save a great deal of energy which might usefully be employed on important matters such as, for example, considering whether the policy assumed under (a) is preferable to obedience by the Government to the rule of law. Yours faithfully,

BRUCE HARRIS, 104 Ledbury Road, W11.

From Mr E. W. Reynolds Sir, Sir Geoffrey Howe (report, April 30) has condemned the IBA for the screening of the programme concerning the killing of untried persons, Irish terrorists or otherwise, as being the prosecution, judge and jury, and in so being has pre-empted any reasonable enquiry.

The action of the presumed British force on these now silenced persons also pre-empted any reasonable enquiry. At least the IBA did not use guns. Can the pen still be mightier than the sword? Yours sincerely,

E. W. REYNOLDS, 46 Windermere, Liden, Swindon, Wiltshire.

From Mr Roy Watts Sir, I note in your report (April 30) that Thames TV "investigated" Carmen Proetta fully before using her evidence". I.e., they acted as police investigators, jury and judge. If this is not trial by television then language has no meaning.

If the media are unable to act more responsibly and, indeed, with some regard for the welfare of the citizens of this country under the rule of law, then the laws which circumscribe their activities will need adjustment.

Yours faithfully, ROY WATTS, Spring Cottage, Lower Ufford, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Cash contrasts

From Mr Kenneth Cox

Sir, Some pay awards or salary increases reported during the last few days are: women in middle management, 11.3 per cent; men in middle management, 9.9; directors, 11.9; nurses, 15; doctors, 8; judges, 5.3 to 11.9; senior Civil Servants, 5.2 to 5.5; Service officers, 6 to 7.3.

Most of the above also enjoy annual increments, have expectations of promotion, and perks such as company cars or free transport. The single rate of retirement pension (OAP) was increased on April 11, 1988, by 4.2 per cent from £2,054 to £2,140.

Comparison of a few actuals

shows: a colonel's increase, £2,276; an under secretary's increase, £2,000 plus; a circuit judge's increase, £2,300; a pensioner's gross pension, £2,140 (increase £86).

Assuming tax at 40 per cent, an increase of £2,000 equals £100 net take-home, per month. A pensioner paying no tax receives a monthly increase of £7; if he pays tax at 25 per cent, the net monthly increase is £5.40.

Should not fit pensioners go on strike and return to work? Yours faithfully, KENNETH COX, 21 Tennyson Close, Brigg, South Humberside, April 22.

'Glosters' in Korea

From the Reverend S. J. Davies

Sir, The origin of the recurrent myth that Colonel Carne, VC, DSO, stayed with the wounded on "Gloucester Hill" when, on his orders, the beleaguered 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, attempted to break out after their heroic stand at the Battle of the Imjin River, evidently dates from the account of the famous battle in *The Times*, April 27, 1951, which re-appeared in your "This Day" column, April 27, 1988, and which states: "The battalion commander, the chaplain and the medical officer stayed behind with the wounded".

As that chaplain, who had the honour to give the address at

By-pass priority

From Mr H. A. Crawshaw

Sir, How sad that Sir Michael Horden's fishing may be disrupted by the proposed western by-pass of Newbury (report and photograph, April 25). Any of the alternatives would mean that hundreds of people in Newbury and district would have their homes blighted and many destroyed. The road would not just go a few hundred yards from them, as in Sir Michael's case!

Too many people are easily swayed by emotional appeals and forget that a road through a town is not a by-pass. A western route, sympathetically designed and landscaped, would take the enormous volume of heavy goods traffic travelling between the Midlands and the south coast ports away from a densely populated area. For a great part of its length it would follow a disused railway line and would be constructed with the minimum interference to the present flow and to the local population.

Should any of the alternatives to the western route be adopted irreparable environmental damage would be caused to the countryside south of the town. Yours faithfully,

H. A. CRAWSHAW (Chairman, Newbury By-pass Supporters' Association), Northcroft House, West Street, Newbury, Berkshire, April 26.

Colonel Carne's funeral in 1986, may I again state that our Commanding Officer did not remain with the wounded, but himself with a small battalion HQ group broke out, only to be taken prisoner by the Chinese some hours later. He knew his padre and doctor had decided to stay with the wounded and dying, but it would have been in dereliction of his military duty had he decided to stay, too.

We were taken prisoner when the first unopposed wave of Chinese infantry surged over our positions, and in later days in the North Korean prison camp Colonel Carne's stubborn, steadfast courage was an inspiration to us all, although much of the time he was in solitary confinement.

Yours truly, S. J. DAVIES (Honorary Regimental Chaplain), The Gloucestershire Regiment, Regimental Headquarters, Gloucester, April 28.

In the heart of Seoul

From Mr K. S. Kim

Sir, I refer to the full-page article on Korea by Chris Peachment which appears on the Saturday page of April 23. I was surprised and annoyed to see such an article in such a respected newspaper as *The Times*.

I am afraid this article will mislead the readers. The article is factually incorrect, describes a certain Korean food (kimchi) distastefully, and seems to make fun of the Korean look and behaviour in general. Did the writer expect to find the same British food and looks on Korean soil? Whether intended or not, we cannot but feel it is anachronistic and racially prejudiced.

Yours truly, K. S. KIM (Press and Cultural Attaché), Embassy of the Republic of Korea, 4 Palace Gate, W8, April 29.

Sour look of sweet takeover

From Viscount Watkinson, CH Sir, Your editorial, "Sweet lessons" (April 28), lets off those who are involved in the possible takeover and dismemberment of Britain's leading confectionary firms far too easily. As its past chairman I must take my facts from Cadbury Schweppes, but may I say that I feel just as strongly that it would be wrong and improper for Rowntrees, who are more immediately threatened, to be "taken over" against the wishes of its management, employees and private shareholders by a financial strategist organised no doubt by institutions and merchant bankers who have not the slightest interest in the long-term future of the industry.

After all, the major purchase of Cadbury Schweppes shares was made by a leading London broker on the instructions of a merchant bank in just over 40 minutes. One wonders what mature consideration the institutions involved gave to the sale of these very large parcels of shares. Neither the predator company nor its merchant bank has given the slightest indication that it has a plan to improve the industrial strategy of the joint company; they have in fact expressly reserved the right to break up the company and sell the bits off to the highest bidder.

In a situation like this the British Government really cannot pursue a passive policy under the shield of so-called "competition". This is not competition; it is the financial manipulation of well-known companies with an out-

standing record of good management and employee relations, export performance and service to their local communities.

Britain's entry to the single European market will not be facilitated by allowing well-known British companies to be emasculated by financial manoeuvres, no doubt profitable to those concerned, but of no long-term value to industry as a whole.

It is no use the Government leaving it to "market forces". The abortive report of the CBI/City working party showed that there is no real common ground between the City and industry on takeover policy.

The Government should therefore act now in the Rowntree case and make it plain that it will refer it to the Monopolies Commission to allow a full and public examination of all the very important issues involved.

Yours sincerely, WATKINSON, Tynna House, Shore Road, Bosham, Chichester, West Sussex, April 28.



ON THIS DAY

MAY 4 1898

During the war between Spain and America (April-December, 1898) the latter supplied the Philippines with arms and urged them to rise against the Spanish. They did so with success, but hopes of independence were crushed when the Treaty of Paris by which Spain ceded the Philippines to America: the islands remained under US control until July, 1946.

THE FUTURE OF THE PHILIPPINES

If Commodore Dewey's victory leaves him master in those seas, the question remains what instructions he has with reference to Manila and the Philippines. As the whole of those instructions have not been published, a section of the Press assumes that the islands are now in the military possession of the United States, which will exercise jurisdiction over them by right of military conquest. The Cabinet, say Washington telegrams, decided to-day to send, whenever Commodore Dewey's report is received, a force sufficient to occupy the islands and hold them while the war lasts.

However that may be, the question of rightful occupation and permanent possession is actively discussed. Diverging currents of opinion are already manifest. There has lately sprung up in this country a party which desires that the United States shall abandon its historic attitude of isolation and take that part in the world's affairs to which its position and its military and naval strength, actual or potential, are held to entitle the American Republic. "The Philippines are ours," say they; "hold them for ever." They want them for prestige, for a naval base, for notice to all the world that this Government will henceforth make its voice heard in the Far East.

There is, as yet, no sign that these extreme views have gained any hold on the President's mind. Congress would be their natural home. American public opinion has never pronounced decisively in favour of seizing Hawaii. The President has, but the President found the response of the people so uncertain that it is believed that he does not yet desire to embark on a new enterprise.

The President, moreover, must take some account of European opinion, which the jingo decline to regard as important. Their organs hold that America is a law unto herself. They seem ready now to extend the Monroe doctrine to the other side of the globe. They scoff at the claims and interests of Japan or even of Russia, still more of Germany. More sober minds are content to suggest that, since Europe will have something to say in the matter, the United States should ultimately dispose of the islands to the Power which will make the best use of them in her own and all other interests. England, they say, is that Power, and with the Philippines in English hands America may well be content with a naval station for herself.

These views, though already urged in opposing papers, are but tentative. No considered policy is yet possible. There has been no time. They might not deserve attention were it not for the spirit prevailing in extreme sections, which always finds partisans in Washington.

To put up the islands and people together to auction with the European Powers as bidders would not satisfy astute Republicans. But somehow a sudden sense of responsibility for the future destinies of these dusky millions has come over the American people. That they shall again be subjects of Spain is held to be impossible. It is, perhaps, more impossible still to turn over Manila to the insurgents, whose first idea might be a general massacre of their former oppressors.

Social changes

From the Co-Chairmen of the Radical Society

Sir, Mr Ronald Butt's amusing, but faintly sour, commentary (April 28) upon Mr Norman Tebbit's inaugural lecture to the Radical Society displays the defensive attitudes of paternalistic High Toryism in the age of Thatcher.

He argues, as do many opponents of the radical revolution, against what he perceives to be those who are "contemptuous of social structure". But is that not what the changes in the last near decade are all about? Surely the new radicalism is intended to replace the old, fossilised "social structure" by a more individualistic ethic in which people no longer know or accept their station in life.

Class sentiments, whether of the old paternalist Tory nature or of the Marxist type (incidentally, the kind of primitivism which, *inter alia*, years ago caused many of us in the Radical Society to leave the Labour Party) are surely what the new radicalism is committed to eradicate.

We can understand that those "High Tories" whose reactions Mr Butt seems to reflect are now in something of a quandary. They reluctantly supported the architects of the radical revolution, including both the Prime Minister and Mr Tebbit, because they saw them as saving the country from socialism; yet they feel distaste for the consequences of their revolution: a more open society and the growth of social mobility.

It is the aim of the Radical Society to oppose privilege, hierarchy, bureaucracy and collectivism. We seek to bring about a more open society, supported by merit and enterprise, offering unprecedented opportunities for ever wider sections of the nation. Inevitably there is resistance to these objectives from those infected by reactionary nostalgia.

Yours sincerely, NEVILLE SANDELSON, STEPHEN HASELER, Co-Chairmen, The Radical Society, 8 Victoria Square, SW1, April 29.

Housing benefit

From Mr Clive Soley, MP for Hammersmith (Labour)

Sir, I can understand William Waldegrave's (April 29) embarrassment about the document leaked from the Prime Minister's office. It clearly states that another cut in housing benefit is being considered at the same time as Mr Waldegrave has been insisting that market rents will be manageable because housing benefit will rise. Most of us fear that the Prime Minister's Office will triumph rather than Mr Waldegrave.

Would Mr Waldegrave tell us what will happen in high-rent areas like West London, where *The Sunday Times* estimates that a small flat rents for £130 p.w. and the DHSS withdraws full housing benefit at a rent of £74 p.w.? What percentage of rents like these will be met by housing benefit and what will be the total cost to the Exchequer? Yours faithfully, CLIVE SOLEY (shadow Minister of Housing and Planning), House of Commons, April 30.

Sophie's choice

From Captain J. M. A. Wilson, RN (ret)

Sir, Astonishingly, yesterday I was able to read in my daily *Times* the announcement of the marriage of my Aunt Sophie 100 years ago. This must surely rank as some sort of a record and only happened because Esso, in their advertisement on page 4, chose to reproduce the front page of *The Times* of April 27, 1888.

Yours faithfully, J. M. A. WILSON, Oak Croft, Westbourne, Emsworth, Hampshire, April 28.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

May 3: The Princess Royal this morning opened the new Vaccine Unit at Evans Medical Factory (Managing Director, Mr David Moffatt), Speke, Liverpool and was received upon arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Merseyside (Wing Commander Kenneth Stoddart).

Her Royal Highness, President of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, later visited Wetherall Bond Street W1 Limited (Chairman, Mr Barrie Clark), 6-12 Colquhoun Street, Liverpool.

The Princess Royal this afternoon opened Wirral Autistic Society's new extension to Raby Hall, Bromborough and was received by the Chairman, Wirral Autistic Society (Dr K Benson). Exhibition at the

Her Royal Highness, attended by Mrs Charles Ritchie, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

CLARENCE HOUSE May 3: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this morning at a service in the Church of St Mary-le-Bow to mark its 900th Anniversary.

Her Majesty subsequently honoured the Master of the Worshipful Company of Grocers (Mr William Marneaux) with her presence at luncheon with the Court of Assistants at Grocers' Hall.

Ruth, Lady Fermoy and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE May 3: The Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, this morning ad-

dressed the British/American Conference on Private Initiatives at Lancaster House, London SW1.

Sir John Riddell, Bt and the Hon Rupert Fairfax were in attendance.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, British Red Cross Youth, this afternoon named British Rail 125 locomotive "The Red Cross" at Paddington Station, London W2.

The Hon Mrs Vivian Baring and Commander Richard Aylard, RN were in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel of the Welsh Guards, was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel C.J. Dawson at the funeral of Major-General W.A.F. Fox-Pitt which was held at Sherborne Abbey, Dorset this afternoon.

KENSINGTON PALACE May 3: The Duke of Gloucester this morning visited the "Abbeys: Yorkshire's Monastic Heritage" Exhibition at the Yorkshire Museum, York and in the afternoon opened the Visitors' Centre at Rievaulx Abbey, North Yorkshire.

His Royal Highness, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at a concert in aid of The Council for Music in Hospitals at St John's Smith Square, London SW1.

Mrs Howard Page was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE May 3: Princess Alexandra, Patron of the National Kidney Research Fund, this afternoon visited the Renal Unit at Guy's Hospital to mark Kidney Research Month.

Mrs Peter Aña was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother will attend a reception at St James's Palace at 6 to mark the 125th anniversary of the Royal United Kingdom Benefit Association.

The Prince of Wales, Patron of the William and Mary Tercentenary Trust, will visit an exhibition of fine and decorative arts of the William and Mary period at Kensington Palace State Apartments at 1.15.

The Princess of Wales will visit the Albemarle Assembly Rooms (centre for elderly and handicapped people), Albemarle Road, Taunton, at 1.10.

The Princess Royal will visit Benenden School, Cranbrook, Kent, at 11.30, as Patron of the Association of Combined Youth Clubs, and will visit Y.O. Special Needs Club, Stormont Road, SW11, at 6; Patmore Youth Club, Theale Road, SW8, at 6.35; Tulse Hill Youth Club, Brixton Hill, at 7.30; St Matthew's, St Bartholomew's

and Salesian Youth Clubs at Bishop Thomas Grant School, SW16, at 8.10.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the new Gwent Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Centre "Ty Palmyra", Newport, at 11; the new TA Centre, Aberllynny, at 12.30; and will visit The Duke of Gloucester Royal Engineers (Military) at The Castle, Monmouth, at 3.

The Duchess of Gloucester will visit the National Schools, Huddersfield, Nottinghamshire, at 2.15 to mark their bicentenary; and will open the new Seamer Suite and the Millbrook development at King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield, at 3.25.

The Duke of Kent will visit the University of Salford IT Institute at 10.50; and the National Computing Centre, Salford, at 12.15.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron of the National Society for Cancer Relief, will open the Study Centre at Sir Michael Sobell House, Oxford, at 11.

Princess Alexandra will attend a performance by Opera 80 of *The Abduction from the Seraglio* at Richmond Theatre at 7.30.

Birthdays today

Mr Frith Banbury, theatrical director, 76; Rev Professor C.K. Barrett, theologian, 71; Miss Joyce Blow, chairman, Mail Order Publishers Association, 59; The Right Rev Dr Farmhouse, Bishop of Bedford, 59; Sir Stephen Hastings, former MP, 67; Miss Audrey Hepburn, actress, 59; Sir David Hildyard, diplomat, 72; Mr Charles King, MP, 63; Sir Edward Pickering, executive, 59; Mr Ron Pickering, sports commentator, 58; Professor Marisa Robles, harpist, 51; Mr Genadiy Rozhdzhevskiy, conductor, 57; Mr Edwin Russell, sculptor, 49; Mr Alexander Schouvaloff, curator, Theatre Museum, 54; Mr Terry Scott, actor, 61; Sir Norman Siddall, mining engineer, 70; Lord Stoddart, 62; Mr E.J.G. Sykes, comedian, 65; Miss Gillian Tindall, novelist and historian, 50; Mr John Watson, racing driver, 42; Professor Basil Yamey, economist, 69.

Appointments

Latest appointments include: Mr Mark Howard Potter, QC, has been appointed a judge of the High Court. He will serve in the Queen's Bench Division.

After the appointment of Mr T.F.H. Cassel as a QC, Mr T.J. Langdale and Mr J.G. Nutting become respectively fourth and fifth senior Treasury counsel at the Central Criminal Court. Mr D.C.J. Page becomes first junior Treasury counsel and the Attorney General has appointed Mr D.P. Spens as a junior Treasury counsel.

Vice-Admiral Sir Derek Zeffel to be promoted admiral on September 28.

Baroness Platt of Writtle, formerly chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, to be a member of the board of British Gas.

Funeral service

Major-General W.A.F. Fox-Pitt The Prince of Wales, Colonel of the Welsh Guards, was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Rev Derek Hillier officiated, assisted by the Bishop of Sherborne, the Ven E.J.G. Ward, and the Rev D. Wyn Williams. Mr Oliver Fox-Pitt, sons, read the lessons and Mr Anthony Fox-Pitt gave an address. The Lord Lieutenant of Dorset was represented by Major-General Mark Bond.

Fritham House School Fritham House School will hold a reunion party on June 7, 1988. The school's 50th anniversary is being celebrated. Those interested in attending should contact: Mrs Caroline Lunley, 23 Westwood Road, SW16 5RU, or telephone 01-764 0971 (evenings only).

St Paul's Girls' School The governors of St Paul's Girls' School announce the appointment of Mrs Helen Williams (Headmistress of Blackheath High School), as High Mistress of St Paul's Girls' School with effect from September 1989, in succession to Mrs Heather Brigstock.

Christening The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs James Lonsdale was christened Rosamund Monica by the Rev Ivor Marsh, assisted by the Rev Edward Vogel, at St John the Baptist Church, Kingston, on Sunday, April 24, 1988. The godparents are Mr Charles Welsley, Mr Thomas Stourton, Mrs Adam Wetherell and Miss Susie Fenwick.

Pollock's 'last canvas' sold for £2.5m

A sale of contemporary paintings, including the last of the Andy Warhol collection, fetched more than \$26 million at Sotheby's New York. Six works each made more than \$1 million.

The most expensive was "Search", a large piece resembling a frenetic batik design, which is reputed to be the last canvas by Jackson Pollock, who died in 1956. It went to a Japanese dealer for \$4,840,000, or \$2,588,235 (estimate \$3 million-\$4 million).

"Ninth Street", a black and white composition painted in 1951 by Franz Kline, went to an American dealer for \$1,570,000, or \$1 million (estimate \$700,000-\$900,000). The Japanese trade also took a splashy Pollock known as "Number 20, 1949" for

SALEROOM

By Huon Mallalieu

\$1,760,000, comfortably above its estimate.

In the general property section of the sale there was a canvas in oil paint and stencil by Warhol, which was a late entry to the catalogue. "210 Coca-Cola Bottles" of 1962 made \$1,430,000, or \$764,706, a record for a Warhol; the estimate was \$700,000 to \$900,000. It was one of five treatments of the subject from that year.

The most remarkable price among Warhol's own collection of his contemporaries' works, \$990,000, or \$529,412, was also the highest paid for

an untitled canvas by Cy Twombly. It was bought by a German dealer, the estimate was \$300,000 to \$400,000. Twombly is by no means a universal taste but this was a comparatively complex work: five rows of white scrolling doodles on a grey background, as if the artist were testing an outsize pen to see if there was any ink in it.

With this session on Monday the running total for the Warhol collections had passed \$12 million, and there is still another, again of contemporary works, to come.

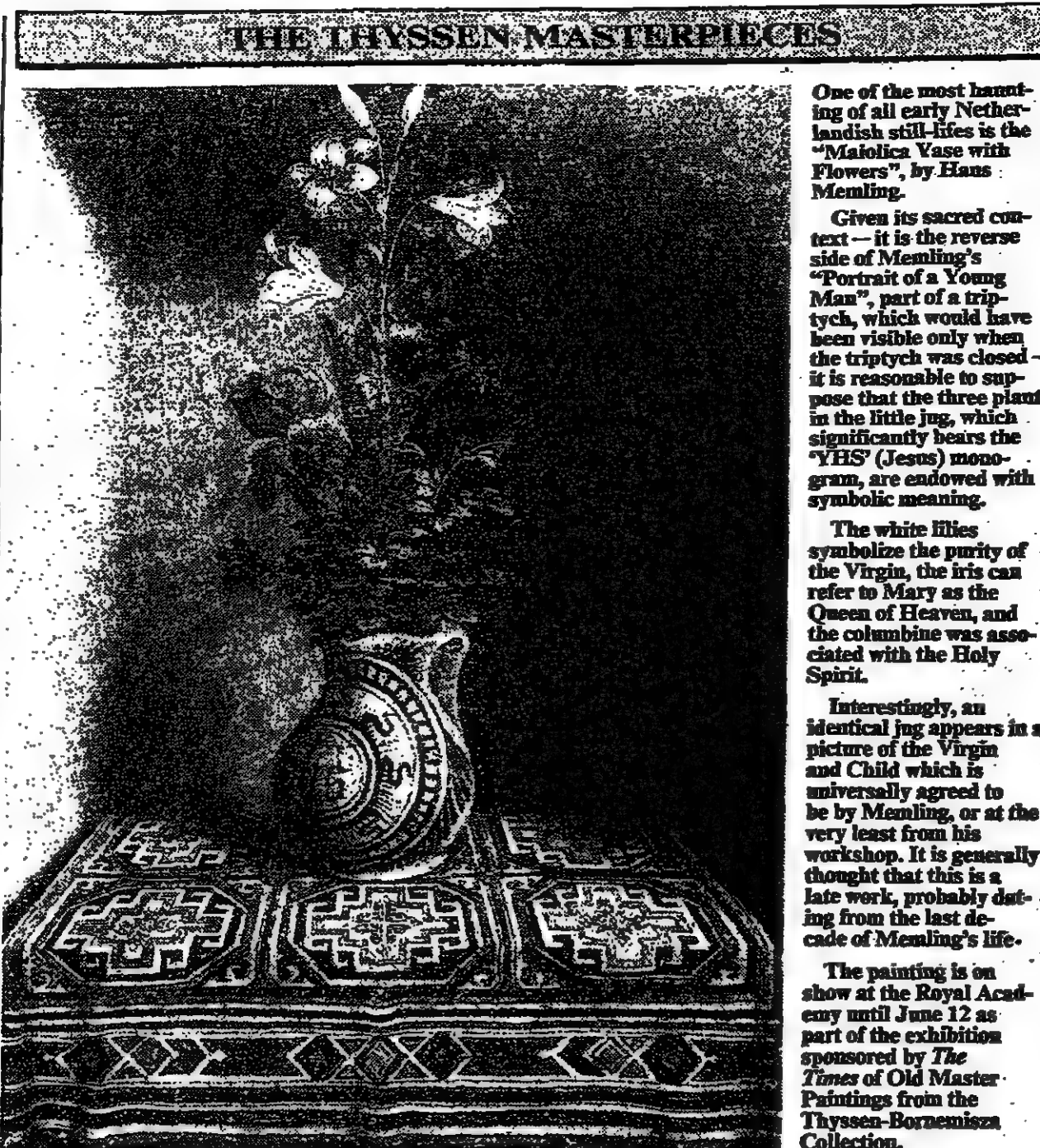
Some New York dealers and collectors had obviously made their excuses and left town, since they were active at a sale of twentieth-century decorative arts held by Sotheby's in Amsterdam on Monday and yesterday.

The two most expensive items, sculptures designed by Gerrit Thomas Rietveld for the 1918 and 1919 years to the New York trade. They are angular wooden pieces, perhaps inspired by scaffolding. An upright *fountain* reached \$1,322,250, or \$747,412 (estimate \$600,000-\$800,000). A larger, easier version made for the artist Torrey, sold for \$1,172,700, or \$518,881 (estimate \$800,000-\$1,200,000). Neither had its cushions.

In London yesterday Phillips held a sale of middle-ranking British paintings. The London dealer Richard Philip paid £13,282 for an English School portrait dating from about 1580, which might, or might not, have shown Mary Queen of Scots (estimate £1,000-£2,500).

The Northern Ireland Office has given £150,000 to be invested by the King George VI Council to provide bursaries for mixed teams of Ulster teenagers, both Protestant and Catholic, to experience at first hand how people from diverse backgrounds can live in peace and harmony.

Dr Brian Mawhinney, the



Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. Barrett and Miss C.E. Dixon The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mr Patrick Barrett, of Wembley, Middlesex, and Christine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs W.J. Dixon, of Gloucester, and granddaughter of the late Sir Alan Burns and Lady Burns.

Mr N.P. Bertolotti and Miss C.S. Pennington The engagement is announced between Nicholas, second son of Mr and Mrs R. Bertolotti, of Hatch End, Middlesex, and Clare, second daughter of Mr and Mrs A.R. Pennington, of Fairwater, Cardiff.

Mr J.E.H. Goble and Miss C.S. Pennington The engagement is announced between James Goble, of Tisbury, Essex, and Yvonne Goble-Wallis, of Batcombe, Somerset.

Mr D.R.G. Cottam and Miss C.J. Betts The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr Guy Cottam, of Limpley Stoke, Bath, and Miss Wendy Stranack, of Strivenham, Wiltshire, and Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Bryan Betts, of Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

Mr P.J. Davis and Miss M.A. Morgan The engagement is announced between Peter, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Davis, of Farnham, Surrey, and Mary, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Morgan, of New York, New York.

Mr P.M. Gadsby and Miss R.L. Millington The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs Martin Gadsby, of Hanger Down House, Arundel, and Robin, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Millington, of Gndley, California.

Dr S.J. Loomore and Miss B.J. Read The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs R.G. Loomore, of Leicester, and Beverly, daughter of Mr and Mrs D.F. Read, of Eastleigh, Hampshire.

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Marriages

Mr M.A. Buge and Miss A.C.H. Kervaze The marriage took place on Friday, April 29, in the Netherlands between Mr M.A. Buge, son of Mr and Mrs P.M. Buge, of Godalming, Surrey, and Miss Aneke Kervaze, daughter of Mr and Mrs H.C. Kervaze, of Voorburg, The Netherlands.

Mr N.A.T. Charlton and Miss C.L. Higgins The marriage took place on Friday, April 22, 1988, at St Dunstan's Church, Chesham, Surrey, between Mr Nicholas Alexander Thomas Charlton, son of Mr and Mrs Gerald Charlton, and Miss Carol Linda Higgins, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stanley Higgins.

A reception was held afterwards at Nonsuch Mansion House, Chesham, Surrey.

Mr G.C. MacLellan and Miss C.L. Brewster The marriage took place on Friday, April 22, 1988, at Kilmaronoch Church, Dumfriesshire, of Mr Gavin Casson MacLellan and Miss Claire Laura Brewster.

A reception was held at the Royal Scottish Automobile Club and the honeymoon is being spent in Mauritius.

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Anniversaries

Births: Bartolomeo Cristofori, pioneer of piano making, Padua, 1655; Sir Thomas Lawrence, President of the Royal Academy, 1820-30, Bristol, 1769; Johann Herbart, philosopher, Oldenburg, Germany, 1776; William Hacking Prescott, historian, Salem, Massachusetts, 1796.

Deaths: William Froude, naval architect, Southampton, South Africa, 1879; Georges Enesco, violinist and composer, Paris, 1955; Sir Osbert Sitwell, Bt, writer, Florence, 1969.

2000 Group and the British Japanese Parliamentary Group. The Ambassador of Japan, President of the Royal Academy, and Sir Hugh Cortazzi, chairman, received the guests.

Dinner Painter-Stainers' Company The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriff, attended the annual Barnett dinner of the Painter-Stainers' Company held last night at Painters' Hall. The Lord Mayor, Mr Douglas Hobbie, presided, assisted by the Upper Warden, Mr John Northcott, and the Renter Warden, Mr Richard Biscoe-Taylor. Mr Alderman Francis McWilliams was the principal guest.

Reception Japan Society The Prime Minister of Japan and Mrs Takeshita were the guests of honour at a reception held yesterday at the Banqueting House by the Japan Society, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, the Japan Association, the Nippon Club, the UK-Japan

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OBITUARY

MRS ANNE RENIER Social history through children's books

Mrs Anne Renier, joint creator of one of the largest specialist collections of children's books in Britain, died on April 27, aged 77.

The collection, now of around 70,000 children's books and related material, mirroring five centuries of social life, is housed in the Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, having been donated by her and her Dutch husband, Fransz Renier, in 1970. It went first to the Victoria and Albert Museum and became the responsibility of Bethnal Green in 1977.

Anne Renier had always been an enthusiastic collector. With her husband, whom she met while they were both students at University College, London, she began to collect children's books seriously in the mid-1950s.

They had decided that a proper understanding of social history could only be gained by studying the material provided by adults for children, and this led them to adopt an all-embracing policy of acquisition.

The Reniers did not only collect children's books however. Their collection of writ-

ings and memorabilia relating to William Hoare (1780-1842), the English antiquarian and radical pamphleteer, is probably one of the largest in private hands.

Although Anne Renier's bibliographical knowledge was considerable, her energies went almost totally into acquiring and cataloguing her books, and she published very little.

Friendship's Offering (1964) is an essay on 19th century annuals and gift books. She also compiled a checklist of her copies of *The Bazaar of Flowers* by Christoph von Schmid, and wrote about specific items in her collection for *Book Collector* in 1974.

Anne Renier's vision of the potential of children's books for research into social history and the history of childhood was realised through a lifetime's commitment to scholarship.

At a time when the best collections of historical British children's books are increasingly to be found abroad, the gift of the Renier collection was a welcome and valuable one.

Her husband survives her.

AIR VICE-MARSHAL JOHN MARSON

Air Vice-Marshal John Marson, CB, CBE, who died on May 1, at the age of 81, began his RAF career as a pilot in the years before the war. But he later transferred to the technical side, and played a formative role in the training of RAF apprentices in the post-war years.

Born on August 24, 1906, he went from Oakham school to Cranwell, in 1924, and learned to fly.

A good deal of his service before the war was spent in the Middle East, specifically with Army Cooperation squadrons during operations against insurgents in Iraq.

He was one of the few gunnery experts in the RAF at this time, and, with war on the horizon, was withdrawn from the flying side, and posted to the technical branch, where he was involved with the continuously evolving problems of air gunnery throughout the war.

During and after the war he commanded a number of RAF stations, and when he achieved air rank was Air Officer Commanding Nos 42 and 24 Groups in Technical Training Command, as well as being President of the Ordnance Board and Director General of Technical Services.

The period covered by these appointments (1951-61) was one of immense expansion and increasing sophistication in the technical needs of the RAF, and Marson was in charge of the training of all apprentices, whose numbers rose to a maximum of 40,000.

He retired in 1961, and devoted himself to the life of Aldenham, where he was Mayor during the opening of the Maltins at Snape, in 1967. He was also chairman of the Suffolk branch of the Soldiers', Sailors', and Airmen's Families Association, and, from 1985 to 1988, was president of the Cruising Association.

He leaves his widow, and two sons.

PROFESSOR OTTO PÄCHT

Professor Otto Pächt, one of the leading European art historians of his generation, who worked for many years in Britain after the rise of Nazism, has died in Vienna at the age of 85.

THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Wasted chances

First Tuesday (ITV) was a documentary based on an idea of timeless appeal. It took the principle of the town mouse and the country mouse, revised for the era of "Loads of Money" and "Baggerall Money": a working welder in Winchester swapped lives for a week with an unemployed man from Middlesbrough.

The object of this exercise was to evoke sympathy with the northerner, which was swiftly and effectively done. There was far more to living on Teesside than just feeding a family of four on £32 a week. The Southerner's confidence almost visibly evaporated when he went down to the local job club — an association set up apparently to motivate long-term unemployed — and examined his counterpart's file, a record of 10 job applications a day, five days a week, for weeks on end.

The Southerner acknowledged immediately that no individual initiative could beat these odds, and that initiative itself would be instantly sapped in the climate of despair which prevailed in the community. One Northerner suggested that the only real solution to the area's employment problem would be a communal grave.

Meanwhile, in the prosperous Home Counties, the Northern man and his family enjoyed a week of work, socialization, a nicer house and a new car. The optimism thus engendered disappeared when the family looked in an estate agent's window and calculated that they would get £15,000 for their house in Middlesbrough and would need £75,000 to buy an equivalent dwelling in Winchester. On a maximum wage of £15,000 a year including overtime, the idea of getting on "Norman" Tebb's father's bike did not compute.

A great deal of relevant information about both families' situations was omitted. There was also the assumption that neither wife would ever work. Chauvinism is obviously flourishing at Yorkshire Television. The programme was frustrating and unsatisfactory; a neat idea robbed of its proper impact because it had not been thought through to a real conclusion.

Celia Brayfield

Diane Hill reports from Paris on a reasoned, sombre Shakespeare production with Bulle Ogier and a strangely-costumed Michel Piccoli

Barely the Bard

Le Conte d'Hiver Nanterre-Amandiers

One of the best things about *The Winter's Tale* is that it offers a display of late Shakespearean linguistics at their finest.

Strip this rarely revived comedy down to its fireside story scenario, which the Bard himself borrowed from his contemporary Robert Greene, re-clothe it with dry, crusty, modern French dialogue by Bernard-Marie Koltes to become *Le Conte d'Hiver*, re-animate it with the operatically inclined direction of Luc Bondy, and the result is a production in which Shakespeare is neither the means nor the end, just part of the shimmer on the playbill.

For Bondy, who now splits his time between Paris and Berlin, *The Winter's Tale* is Shakespeare's most enigmatic and ingenious work. His direction therefore, is aimed at breaking through the superficialities to reveal the inner wisdom of his tale of Leontes, King of Sicilia, who is brought to see the error of his jealous ways — thanks to a string of intellectually engaging, if incredible, contrivances.

Bondy's sage remodelling of the action however, results in a

weighty sobriety that flattens out most of the entertaining contours of a fanciful plot, that stretches to include a romantic flock of shepherds and shepherdesses. These, under Bondy's Germanic baton, and several layers of bizarre costumes dreamed up by Moidèle Bickel, are distinctly Berber rather than Dresden.

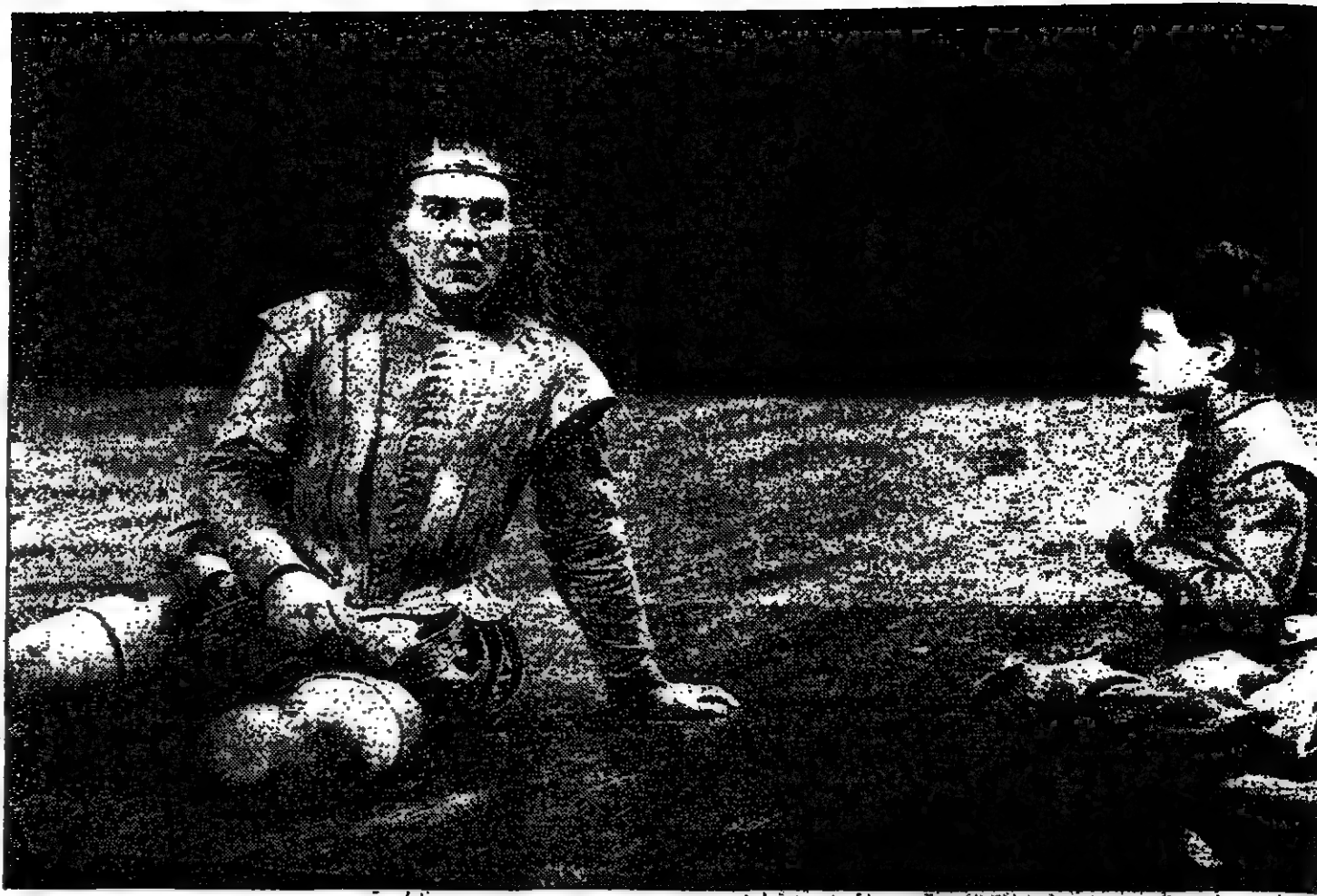
Over-emphasis of the serious renders the ridiculous not sublime, but more ridiculous; never more so than in the closing scenes, when the supposedly dead Queen Hermione poses as a statue only to be brought back to life, as though by magic.

Here, the imagery drifts into highbrow Walt Disney. Bickel's idea of dressing the men in exceedingly unbecoming bouffant bermdas also serves to dilute the theatrical substance Bondy seems to be striving for.

For real solidity one must look to Richard Peduzzi's massively architectural design. His wooden edifice glides silently into various interlocking and visually intriguing modes.

But it does little to lighten the worthy loading that hangs over this production, particularly after the interval, when the misunderstandings and coincidences start to be gathered in readiness for the all-well-but-some-well finale.

Michel Piccoli, an ever-present name in the French cinema,



A sad tale's best for winter: Michel Piccoli (Leontes) leaving aside his kingly dignity, in brilliant Berberic and Ophelia wig, with Maudlines

breathes full-blooded life into Leontes. The keen edge of credibility is sadly taken off his growing despair, when Leontes realises his insane jealousy has lost him happiness and peace of mind, by kindly Piccoli being forced to sport a long wig that makes him look like a belding Ophelia, and a

pair of rompers better suited to the Tweedies, Dum or Dee. Piccoli, and Bulle Ogier as Hermione, are the only honourable escapades from Bondy's Wagnerian direction. The rest of the large cast are tied in their characters by self-conscious, often misdirected, intensity.

Premiered at Prince-Charles's theatre complex in the Rarotonga university suburb of Nanterre, *Le Conte d'Hiver* is a joint production with Roger Planchon's *Le Conte d'Hiver* at Villeneuve and the Avignon Festival. At Nanterre, most May 15, it will be at Villeneuve from May 24 to June 17.

It then opens in Avignon on July 23 for just four days. Here, perhaps, under an open sky and enlivened in the ancient magic of the Palais des Papes, Bondy's expansive direction will find its true destiny in a setting that is in proportion to the production's noble image.

American Dream turns to ashes on the turnpike

Going West
Soho Poly

Sal Paradise, narrator of Kerouac's *On The Road*, "had always dreamed of going west". Gatsby's great mistake, in proceeding in the other direction, was not to realize that he had left the American Dream behind him.

Hooker Harriet (Emer Gillespie), in this puzzling new play by Tony Crazz, the

second in the Poly's Off-Broadway season of drama from and about America, sets off in the approved quadrant, hoping to find a "movie screen at the end of the 3,000 mile road", the ends-up going west in the more colloquial and definitive sense.

Her travelling companion, Bill (Paul Bentall) has a very much less conventional mission: he is carrying the ashes of his friend Emer, recently deceased shaman of a religious community to which Bill once belonged, to scatter them into the Pacific. Harriet and Bill appear to have little in

THEATRE

common: she travels with an entire autobiography of possessions (1,016 of them to be precise) whereas Bill delivered from materials by Emer, has nothing but the cigar box which acts as reliquary.

The third character is Plaza, an enigmatic film producer (by Gatsby out of Godot, well taken by Paul McCleary) who has promised Harriet a contract, but

whose interest in Emer's ashes was baffling to this reviewer.

Harriet's dream quickly turns to nightmare. The journey (Sac Dunderberg does her best using West-ering music and illuminated motel signs to counteract the static quality of the writing) is beset by accidents, but the worst thing is the deterioration of Harriet's body, bleeding and bruised from within, then without.

The only real tension is provided by the delayed revelation of what is wrong with

Harriet, whose end is, by now, you know what, but the extraordinary blood disorder purports, which also, as one remembers from the case of the unfortunate George III, does strange things to the mind.

As the play unfolds westwards, it seems to seem possible that a collective outbreak of the disease has occurred. Emer Gillespie catches Harriet's bleeding and bruised, hopefulness with moving exactitude, but this is very rare stuff indeed.

Harry Eyres

DANCE

Coppélia
Sadler's Wells

Coppélia has replaced the originally scheduled *Swan Lake* for the last few days of Northern Ballet's season at Sadler's Wells. Now 10 years old, this production moves the action from Galicia to a Lancashire village, and the shift of location provides the opportunity for some English folk dancing, which is featured in the last act *divertissement*.

Former artistic director Robert de Warren adapted scenario and

Lacking polish

the traditional choreography was reproduced by Peter Clegg. Both concept and production have worn well.

Norman McDowell's original designs have been replaced by Richard Mark's deco, which retain a strong Lancashire flavour. No one seems to be prepared to admit responsibility for the costumes, which have evidently seen better days.

Mireille Bourgeois was the first night Swanilda, dancing with style and wit. She is by nature a little sophisticated for such a rustic

production, but her sense of fun and gentle charm are a delight. Her dancing was assured, and accomplished, although her footwork seemed to have lost something in precision.

By contrast with Bourgeois, Didier Gentiloff was a very rustic Franz. His dancing had energy and assurance but there were some shaky landings, and his performance lacked polish.

As Dr Coppélius, Jeremy Kerridge emphasized the grotesque nature of the role. It's a

valid approach, and in consequence it is a pity to gloss over the beautiful moments when the old man believed he had succeeded in bringing the doll to life.

It was also curious that he apparently gave her lungs, rather than a heart — though not perhaps as strange as the fact that he appeared to have a small television set in his caravan, although, to judge by the costume of the Lord of the Manor, the action was set in the 18th century.

Among the rest of the company, the best dancing came from the three young men in the work variation: it was neat, bright and together.

Judith Cruickshank

Stephen Pettitt interviews John Eliot Gardiner, who is conducting fortetianist Malcolm Bilson and the English Baroque Soloists in recording all Mozart's piano concertos in authentic period style

Meticulous Mozart



Hitting it off: John Eliot Gardiner (right) with Malcolm Bilson, pictured with the English Baroque Soloists

John Eliot Gardiner since 1983, has been Musical Director of the Opéra de Lyon, a post he relinquishes this year. In conversation he gives the feeling that his passions, both musical and extramusical, are boundless. Anyone who has seen him at work in rehearsal or recording studio will know, too, that by nature he is a stickler for getting things right, though at the same time his performances are renowned for their energy and spontaneity.

His ear, rigorously trained by Nadia Boulanger, is as meticulous as his scholarship, nurtured by Thurston Dart.

"Well, that's my job, isn't it? But as a conductor, at least when I'm working with players I know, I see myself very much as a *primus inter pares*. I have immense respect for today's baroque and classical musicians; they've had several marking experiences over the years, they've had to learn the techniques as they've gone along. Their strength is their commitment and their autodidacticism.

But it's also important to push them to the limits of expression. It's this struggle with the means of production that makes the music what it is. The problem with modern instruments and techniques is that they make everything sound so easy."

Had there had to be any compromise in microphone techniques, in order to get the balance right between the soft tones of the fortepiano and the orchestra? "Absolutely not! No, we just had a crossed pair of microphones in the usual place, with no compensatory milking for the soloist."

"You have to be practical in these matters. If we were really going to be authentic, of course, I shouldn't be there at all. But again it's a matter of practicality."

How did Malcolm Bilson, the American fortepianist who is the soloist throughout the series, first come to Gardiner's notice? "It was when I was Principal Conductor of the CBC Orchestra in Vancouver."

"Nick Kenyon, who was then working on *The New Yorker*, gave me a notice that I should go and hear and meet him, and immediately I did it. I put the idea of the Mozart cycle to Andreas Holschneider [head of DG's Archiv label] and that was it."

Gardiner admits he still enjoys Mozart on modern pianos, but he is keen to point out the advantages that the earlier instrument holds over its successor in this repertoire: its silvery treble, and its clear, penetrating bass register.

But what about the concertos as music? "Well, I see them as the culmination of Mozart's operatic writing. They're really the ultimate 18th century form. They're written on a larger canvas than the symphonies, for instance, and formally they expand upon the opera arias."

"But at the same time, they're a marvellous preparation for the

operas. I'm planning to do the seven big ones for Deutsche Grammophon in the 1990s, starting with *Idomeneo* and *La Clemenza di Tito*."

Gardiner's musical activities, though, range far beyond Mozart. His enthusiasm for all things French, manifest at two extremes in recordings of Rameau and of Chabrier, continues unabated.

At the Proms this year, for instance, his Lyon team are to give a semi-staged performance of their *Pelléas et Mélisande*, seen in Edinburgh in 1985, which is denuded of accretions like the orchestral interludes added by Debussy to facilitate scene changes and alterations to the score simpler to put together from the orchestra's point of view.

He is undoubtedly courageous about such matters (his *Pelléas* text was mystifyingly pilloried in France), and equally so about the repertoire he conducts. Is there any music of which he feels so much in awe that it might better be left to a later stage of his career? "I love the *Missae Solennis*, and I've already conducted it. Good heavens, no. After you've coped with all the difficulties and subtleties of 18th century music, nothing in the 19th century holds any terrors. But I'm pretty frightened of K595."

John Eliot Gardiner conducts Malcolm Bilson and the English Baroque Soloists in Mozart's Piano Concertos K491 and K595 at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Thursday May 5.

LAST PERFORMANCES OF Janáček's The Makropulos Case

Tonight and Saturday only, at 7.30

Cast includes: Josephine Borstow, Bonaventura Bottone, Edward Byles, Paul Harry, Terry Jenkins, Eric Shilling, Anna Steigen, Jacek Strouch

Conductor Lionel Friend Producer David Pountney Designer Maria Björnson Lighting Nick Chelton



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LONDON DEBUTS

Poised clarity, brittle energy

In a programme, at St John's Smith Square, consisting of Chopin, Liszt and Frank Martin, the Swiss pianist Sylviane Defraeye showed an unflappable technique and a sensitive ear for tone colours. Her performance of Chopin's B Minor Sonata was eminently sane, alive to structure as well as emotion, while similar characteristics pervaded both Martin's idiosyncratic Preludes — his only work for solo piano — and Liszt's demanding *Dante Sonata*, a piece often attempted by the unready, though obviously not in this instant. Defraeye may not be the most dramatic of pianists, but her clear-sightedness and poise are appealing compensations.

Thomas Larchner, from Austria, presented himself at the Purcell Room rather as the Kronos Quartet does, as an artist with a distinctly contemporary image, reflected both in the enterprise of his programme planning and in his dress. Musically he regaled us with Liszt at his most other-worldly and weird, in *Trübe Wolken*, *Unstern*, and *Trans-ergon* numbers 1 and 2, and with Schoenberg's three piano pieces, Op 11, and Webern's Op 27 Variations. Larchner's advocacy of these works was mystical rather than servant, though he showed another side of his artistry in Beethoven's "Hammerklavier" Sonata, despatching it with a refreshingly brittle energy.

By contrast, the American pianist Uriel Tscharn, at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, gave a rather workaday performance of Brahms's Second Piano Concerto in a concert with the English Players under Guy Protheroe. The piece demands greater depth in both interpretation and quality of sound than Tscharn seemed able to provide, despite his beautiful pacing of the slow movement; his cause was not helped by the string section's occasional flatness.

The Italian cellist Jacopo Scatt,

accompanied at Wigmore Hall by the able Julius Drake, grew in confidence as his recital progressed. I found it difficult to warm to his account of Fauré's Elegy, Opus 26, and in a French piece along more classical lines Debussy's Cello Sonata, he seemed wholly to reconcile his own national characteristics with those of the music. Yet Samuel Barber's Sonata, idiomatic, essentially romantic and international, drew from him some assured playing, and showed us that, when the piece fits, he is an artist well capable of seeing the meaning behind the notes.

Only the most ambitious violinist could attempt all three of Brahms's Sonatas in the one recital, and only an unusually gifted one could play them as well as did Simon Fischer in his Wigmore Hall debut. With his father Raymond Fischer providing considerably more than mere support at the piano, he projected the intensity and the light and shade in each of these massive pieces with an appositely warm sound and confident, large bow players saw to it that the emotional and the cerebral were held in ideal balance, while the familial relationship also doubtless helped the sense of mutual purpose that each performance contained.

The Early Music Network introduced to London at Wigmore Hall an ensemble of two cornets and two sackbuts, called Les Sagueboudiers de Toulouse, who, with the soprano Sally Bradshaw, gave a programme called "Music in Venice, 1610-1630". There were some delicious pieces here — madrigals by Monteverdi, Rossi and Bernasconi and Alessandro Grandi's *Sarfe Regina* among them — but much of the playing and the (often flat) singing seemed timidly projected.

S.P.

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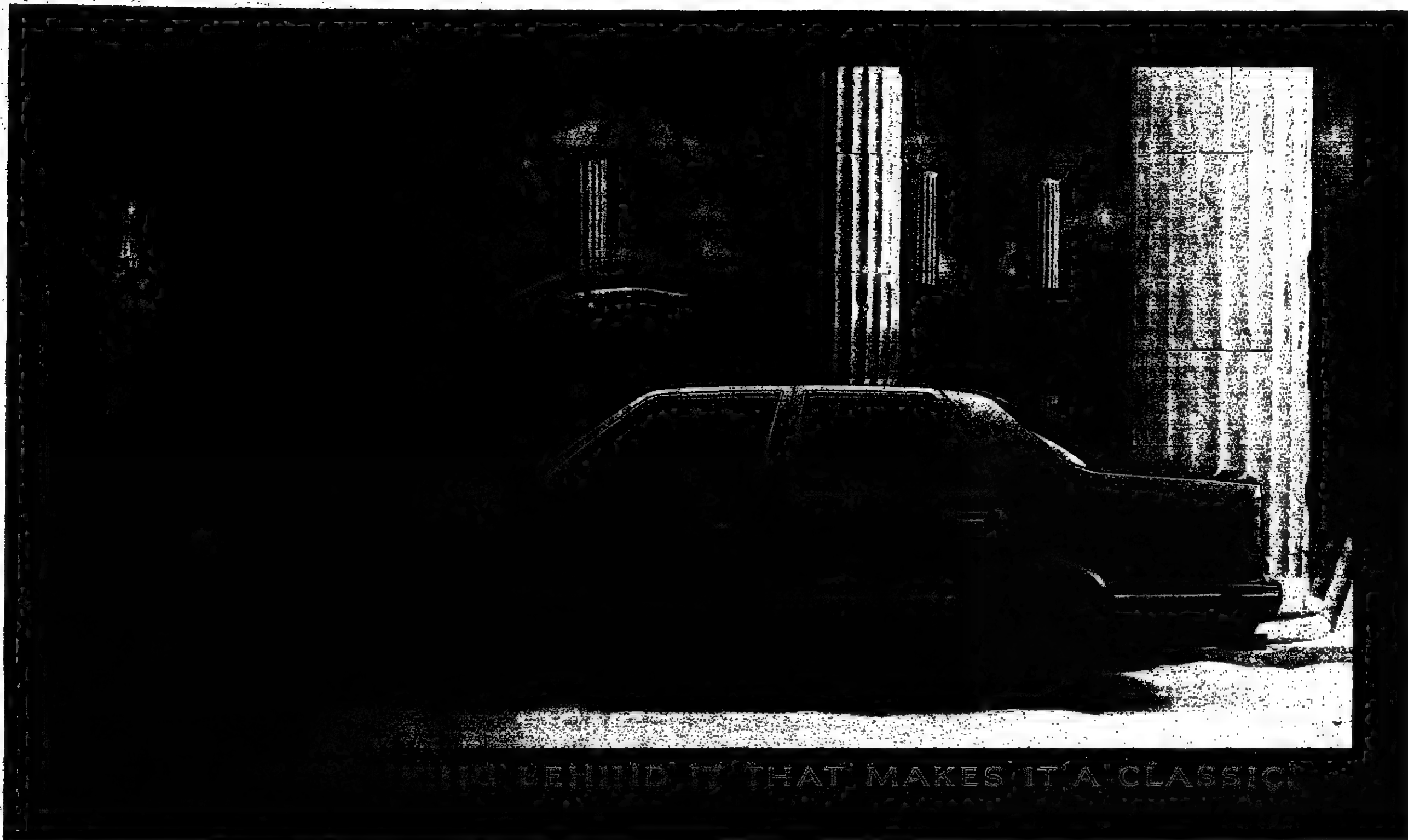
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There comes a time in one's life when the racier automobiles are eschewed for the more respectable 'large car'. Traditionally, however, such a car is invariably a compromise. Its enormous engine takes up rather more room than one had expected.

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

An uncomfortable living

Is telling country tales the only way for single women to make a country lifestyle work? Fionnuala McHugh meets two dedicated rural diarists

I have an ill goat at the moment who's supposed to be kidding," Jeanine McMullen, presenter of Radio 4's *A Small Country Living*, had warned. "Let's pray she doesn't do something ghastly like die." Animal death and sickness stalk the pages of her new book, *Wind in the Ash Tree*, so it seemed distressingly likely that Alice the goat would be no exception. But the news on arrival at McMullen's door in one of the most isolated regions of Wales was that a perfect kid had been born half an hour previously. "Don't shake hands," she ordered. "I'm covered in afterbirth."

There is, to a town dweller, a disconcerting rawness about the life she has been leading for the past 12 years. Most people who nurture fantasies about rural contentment usually do so within strolling distance of a bus lane; even the most gruesome traumas can, in print, take on a certain charm. Faced with the reality, however, the spirit quails. Inspecting the kid's progress, McMullen bent to pick up the afterbirth, then took it, wrapped in some wisps of straw, to an outhouse which contained the body of Alice's other kid, put down because it was a billy goat.

Out in the windy, sunlit fields are 23 ewes and Cyril ("a nice old boy who keeps the girls calm"). There are also two horses, four cats, six dogs, assorted chickens and ducks "and Douglas the drake, who drowned his wife in an excess of passion on the pond".

It has not, she says, been a good spring. The very mildness of the winter has left most of the animals ailing. "Hard frost is a good thing — it kills all the bugs." There is no self-deception about bucolic contentment; indeed, if anything, her life seems ruled by some inescapable compulsion, rather than actual desire to be here. Underneath all those amusing anecdotes in her writing and programmes lurks the bleakness of a potentially unkind environment. "I'm more trapped than most people because I'm such a coward, afraid of the wind, of thunder and lightning. I worry like mad."

When she bought the house and its 13 acres at the end of 1971 after seeing it while on holiday, there was someone in her life, a man she simply refers to as The Artist. McMullen, brought up in New South Wales, a landscape of endless space, wanted somewhere to bolt to from her BBC job (she has worked on *Today*, *World at One* and *You and Yours*) in London.

The livestock came to her — every invalid, outcast and runt in the valley. She spent five years commuting up and down the M4 trying to earn the money to feed them, leaving The Artist in charge. When he departed, having had enough, she had to give up her BBC work, but somehow survived — a fortuitous legacy saved her from total penury at one point. In 1979 the BBC was finally persuaded that a programme on country life ("a

programme for people with real mud on their wellies", as someone once described it) would find an audience, and *A Small Country Living* was born. This summer is its tenth season. "I earn my living from that little programme and from books. I make just enough."

"Do you know what's the hardest? Carrying in wood and coal, bucket after bucket. And the mud and the snow. Look at this lot!" — pointing to the sleek whippet and Winston, the chihuahua, who pattered instantly to her side — "they live from one meal to the next and you can get very basic living with that. Actually I think I am a cross between a waitress, a madam and a lavatory attendant."

Would she do it again? "Yes, I probably would, but it's difficult. I moan and complain and curse the animals but I've only to think of putting them down and I go into a decline. I never recommend it as a life because so much depends on the person. And I hate country books like mine." It seems probable therefore that she will bypass Elizabeth Arhursson's book *Ewes and I*, an account of the author's passion for sheep.

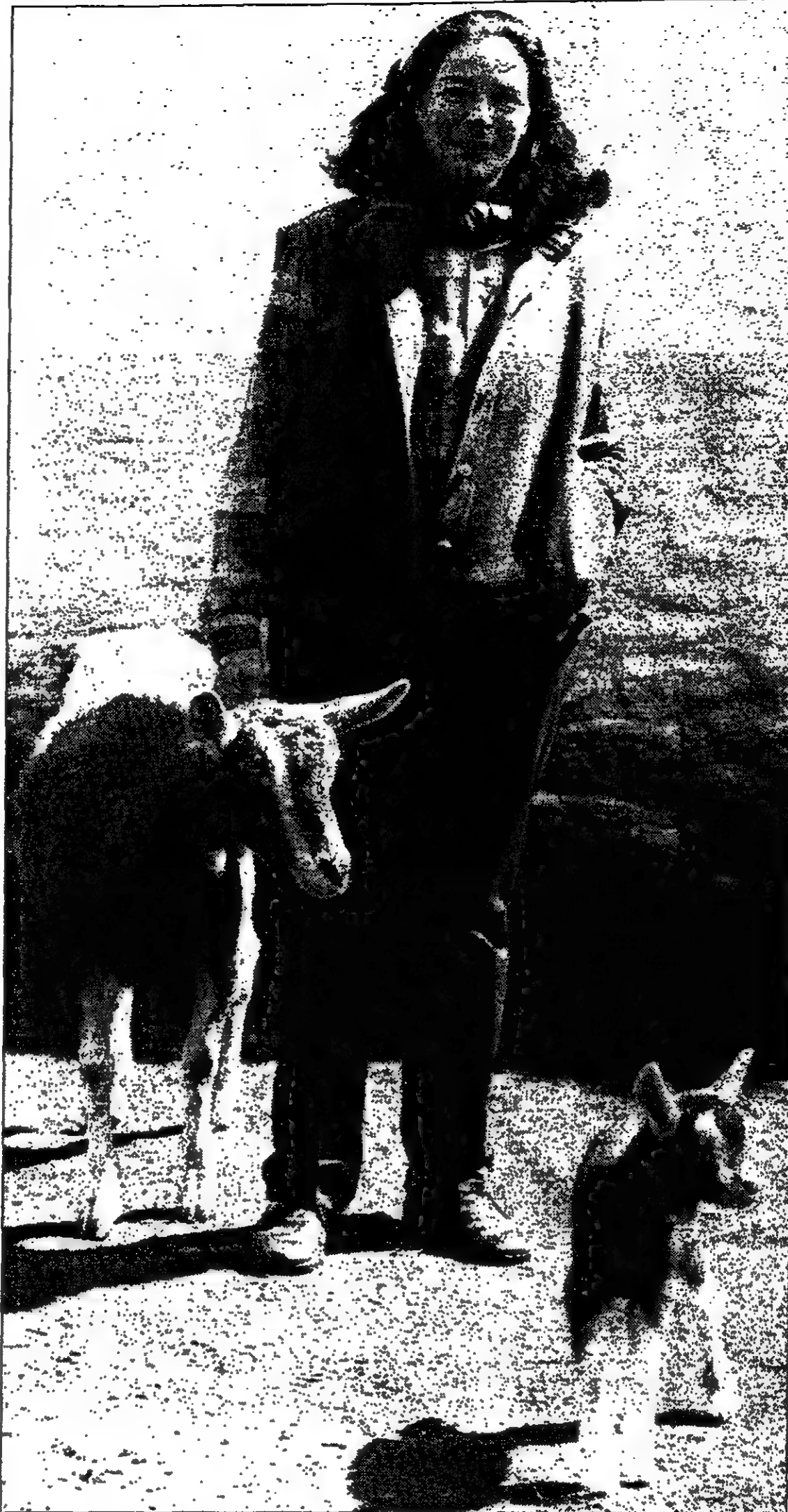
By coincidence, Arhursson is transporting herself, 13 sheep, two cats and a crate of chickens to 5½ acres in North Wales to begin a new life. And she too has spent the past few years living on her own, in Cambridgeshire, having been divorced by her husband three years ago for "rearing lambs in the matrimonial dining room".

Arhursson has no regrets about the effects her "addiction", which began eight years ago when she bottle-fed a couple of lambs, have had on her family life. She has two grown-up children, to whom she is still close. "My husband says to them, your mother's a bit crazy. I think he feels it is rather sad."

Her book has a more overtly romantic outlook on rural life (the dedication reads "with love and happy memories of summer in the country") than McMullen's. "That first year when the lambs did seem more or less like that, pretty blissful." Life on her own has now become less easy financially. She writes, spins and dyes wool and makes soft toys.

The irony is that while McMullen and Arhursson's books may fuel the unrealistic desire of others to live in the country, they were written in order to alleviate the pressures that are part of that existence. "I've frequently thought of giving it up," McMullen claims. But Arhursson says: "There is nowhere else I want to go. And I'm not sorry about swapping a husband for the animals."

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Wind in the Ash Tree by Jeanine McMullen is published on Thursday May 12 by Unwin Hyman (£10.95). Ewes and I by Elizabeth Arhursson is published by Souvenir Press (£8.95). A Small Country Living returns to Radio 4 on July 30 at 12 noon.



Animal crackers: Jeanine McMullen — "I just think of putting them down and I go into a decline"

Green light on love

Two psychologists are out to prove that jealousy does not discriminate

Hell may have no fury like a woman scorned — but two Manchester-based psychologists are reserving their judgement until they have fully analysed all available data.

Dr Nick Tarrier, a clinical psychologist at Greater Manchester's Prestwich Hospital, believes the green-eyed monster attacks men and women with equal ferocity, albeit in different ways. "It occurs in all strata of society, although the way people respond to it may have something to do with their class or background, and women may be slightly more affected than men because they often place a higher priority on love."

Tarrier and his Prestwich colleague Richard Beckett, a forensic psychologist, have embarked on a study of jealousy in order to translate their insights into statistical data

their partner in such a way as to provoke the very desertion they fear.

Jealousy is not in itself considered a mental illness. "Although there is a small group of people with mental illness of which jealousy is a symptom", Tarrier explains. "Morbid jealousy, by its very definition, is irrational — so if your partner really is being unfaithful, you cannot be considered a victim of the Othello syndrome."

Naturally it can be very difficult without seeing both partners to fathom the truth of the situation, but if there is reasonable cause for jealousy, Tarrier says he would feel "ethically obliged" not to counsel his patient to learn to live with it, but would point out the other options available. Many spouses, of course, patiently put up with their

'One type has low self-esteem and a low sense of security... then there are the more extrovert, perhaps alcohol-abusing types'

and ultimately, they hope, into a means of treatment.

Tarrier — who cheerfully confesses to being one of the few people in Britain not to have seen *Fatal Attraction* — became fascinated by the subject because of the patients he saw with extreme, pathological variants of the condition. It seemed to him that the morbidly jealous victims of what is sometimes known as "the Othello syndrome" fell into two types.

"One type has low self-esteem and a low sense of security: the sort of people who feel they wouldn't want to be a member of any club which would have them. We have the hunch that these are primarily women," Tarrier says. "Then there are the more extrovert, insensitive, perhaps alcohol-abusing types that Beckett mostly sees — who are mainly men."

The pair devised two questionnaires (one for the jealousy sufferer and one for the partner) and wrote off to several magazines suggesting they invite their readers to participate in the study. A tiny paragraph in the April issue of *Compulsion* is bringing in an encouraging response — "we're opening 50 to 60 letters a day, mostly from women, although some have written in on behalf of their boyfriends".

There is a continuum of jealousy, according to Tarrier and Beckett, from the person who occasionally fantasises upon the possibility of their loved one absconding with someone else, to those so preoccupied with jealous fantasies that they obsessively challenge and check up on

partner's infidelities. "Women particularly fall into this category because there are other circumstances which affect such decisions, and economic dependency is one."

Should partners confess to infidelities — or are such confessions, even after the event, likely to sow the seeds of jealousy where none previously existed?

"It's dangerous to generalize," Tarrier says, "because if you keep it secret for a long while and then it comes out it could be worse. You've got to consider all the possible consequences. But certainly learning of an affair can change a previously trusting person into a jealous one — with some cause."

One common factor in all obsessively jealous people, Tarrier believes — although he has yet to prove it — is an illogical connection in the way they think, like Othello jumping to the conclusion that since Desdemona had lost her handkerchief she must also have lost her virtue.

Convincing patients that they are thinking illogically, and presenting them with plausible alternative scenarios to their destructive fantasies, can be a major step towards curing them.

Jealousy, Beckett and Tarrier suspect, is not a characteristic we are born with. "I don't think it's got anything to do with insecurity as a child, either," Tarrier says, "or whether you had difficulties in potty training. I think it develops later."

Alexandra King

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Postal exercise

In 1985 Maryon Stewart's Brighton-based PMT Advisory Service discovered an intriguing link between excess weight and premenstrual tension. The link was so strong that the PMT Advisory Service changed its name to the Women's Nutritional Advisory Service, and Stewart published a book entitled *PMT Through Diet* (Ebury Press, £4.95). The exercise section was written by Stewart's friend Julia Swift, whose "Susssex Shape-Up" programme has since become available beyond Sussex through her studio in Ladbroke Road, London. Now the two women have joined forces to produce a health and fitness programme-by-post,

combining exercise with nutritional and dietary advice. Applicants fill in a detailed lifestyle questionnaire, and receive programme plans and back-up for three months for £73.50 (£56 for diet alone, £27.50 for exercises only). "You send back your scorecards for a sort of MOT," Swift says, "and we tell you whether you're ready to go on to the next stage." But can such a thing really work by post? "We're just starting, so we really don't know if it will work," she agrees. But the WNAS has been operating a postal diagnosis and treatment service worldwide for four and a half years, with encouraging results reported in weight loss and increased libido — an unsolicited side effect. Interested guinea pigs can obtain further details from Susssex Shape-Up, PO Box 268, Hove, East Sussex BN3 1RW (tel 0273 771366).

BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

Quote me...



"She always knows what she wants and she's determined to have it. In a funny way, you can argue that men are not like that." William Whitelaw on Margaret Thatcher

Greener fingers

Those enterprising Swedes have produced what can only be described as an embalming fluid for plants. Start a "chemical feeding programme" which takes from three to 14 days, and at the end of the prescribed period the only plant maintenance required is "an occasional dusting". They have no need of water, soil, feeding or light. The process, about which the Swedes are being carefully hushed, is said to extend the life of plants for years — if you can call it life. Plant fanciers will naturally be suspicious, and ethical problems arise. For example, can you still talk to a plant that has been artificially preserved in this way — and, if you can, will it listen? The formula is being shown off at a trade exhibition this month in London, but you can find out more from the UK agents for Evergreen International Productions: Ivory Plants, Unit 3, Ascot Court, Whitehouse Business Park, North Bradley, Trowbridge, Wilt (tel 0225 777248). Now, if they could only find a way to keep the dust off...

NT for free

Seventy National Trust properties in England, Wales and Northern Ireland will be waiving their admission charges next Wednesday just for the day. A similar experiment last year attracted 34,000 visitors. This year the chosen sites include the rare breeds farm at Wimpole Hall, Cambridgeshire; the White Lady Waterfall, Devon; the Chedworth Roman Villa in Gloucestershire; and the Dolaucothi Gold Mines in Dyfed. For a full list send SAE to: Free Entry Day, The National Trust, 36 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AS.

Sun sinners

In good time to allow you to switch your summer holiday from Corfu to Copenhagen comes a comprehensive guide to *The Sun and Your Skin* (Optima Positive Health Guides, £5.99, published on May 12) by Professor Ronald Marks, head of dermatology at the University of Wales College of Medicine in Cardiff. Hypochondriacs will be heading for the magnifying glass and mirror to compare every mole and spot with the detailed photographs of rodent ulcers and malignant melanomas, but there is a chapter on "Sunshine — the good side", and some useful advice on tanning accelerators (which Professor Marks does not believe genuinely exist), tanning simulators and sunbeds. If after reading the book you still feel disposed to visit a solarium, Marks advises: "Always wear goggles. Always match the exposure to your skin's reaction. Don't wear cosmetics or perfumes before a session. Don't have more than 20-30 sessions a year..." and try to find operators who are members of the Association of Sun Tanning Operators, who have agreed to the code of practice suggested by the Health and Safety Executive.

Victoria McKee

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Jane Rackham

BBC1

- 6.00 **Celebs** AM. Leon Errol in *Busted by a Beard* (b/w). 6.55 **Weather**.
7.00 **Breakfast Time** with John Stapleton and Jeremy Paxman. Includes national and international news at 7.05, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.45, 7.55 and 8.25. 8.55 **Regional news and weather** followed by *Open Air*. Patsy Cline receives viewers' comments on yesterday's television programme. To contribute ring 061-314 0424. 9.20 **Kenny!** Four Square (r). 10.25 **Children's** BBC. Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings followed by *Play School* (r) and *Peddlers* (r). 10.55 **Pete to Eleven**. Ronald Pickup with a reading.
11.00 **News and weather** followed by *Colin and Bob* with Patsy Cline and Bob Weir.
12.00 **News and weather** followed by *Help is Here*. The second of four programmes to mark Europe Against Cancer Week. (Coefax)
12.15 **Glynis Christian's News**. Zealand. The south of North Island (r). 12.45 **The Blue Room** to cartoons (r). 12.55 **Regional news and weather**.
1.00 **One O'Clock News** with Michael Buerk. Weather. 1.30 **Neighbours**. Jane makes her choice between Shane and Mike, and Susan decides between Clive and Paul. 1.50 **Four Square**. Quiz series.
2.15 **Film: Sam Whiskey** (1989). starring Burt Reynolds and Angie Dickinson. Comedy about a man who discovers that her husband has stolen gold bars from the Denver Mint. She decides to turn him back before the loss is discovered and keeping the late man's character unaltered. Directed by Arnold Laven. (Coefax)

BBC2

- 6.55 **Open University**. Communication and Education. Ends at 7.30.
9.00 **Celebs**.
9.30 **Daytime on Two**. A-level statistics - distribution. 10.00 **For** and five-years old. 10.15 **Science**.
10.30 **How the Belgian city of Charleroi** is recovering from an economic slump. 11.00 **Words and pictures**. 11.15 **The different** routes taken by the first canal, railway line and motorway across the Pennines. 11.40 **How** coffee purchasing countries controlled coffee producing countries. 12.05 **Three young** people who have joined the family business. 12.25 **At John's** first week at work he has to decide whether or not to join a union. 12.50 **Part two** of a programme introduction to the Portuguese language and people.
1.30 **The Flame** (r). 1.35 **Zig Zag** (r).
2.00 **News and weather** followed by *Storyline* (r).
2.15 **James Johnston** - among the Greats. The tenor talks about his life and career in music (first shown on BBC Northern Ireland).
2.35 **Northern Lights: The Jewellery** of Deborah Boyd Wray (r).
3.00 **News and weather** followed by *Doctors to Be*. Having succeeded in gaining a place at medical school, the would-be doctors begin the academic year. Narrated by Paul Vaughan (r). (Coefax)
3.45 **Rob Worley's Electronic Circuits**. The world of the electronic music exponent (r).
3.50 **News**, regional news and weather.
4.00 **Dr Kildare**. Episode two of the vintage medical drama (r).
4.25 **An Actor's Life for Me**. Another collection of anecdotal stories about the ups and downs of a thespian's life. Among this afternoon's contributors are Freddie Jones, Maureen Lipman, Anton Rodgers and Max Wall (r).
5.00 **The Victorian Kitchen Garden**. The sixth in a series of 13 films following the reconstruction of a walled garden to its former Victorian glory (r). (Coefax)

BBC2

- 5.30 **Film: 88 Special** introduced by Barry Norman in New York (r).
6.00 **Film: Holiday Inn** (1942, b/w) starring Bing Crosby, Fred Astaire and Virginia Dale. The famous musical comedy featuring a host of living Berlin's songs including *White Christmas*, *Winter Parade* and *How Holiday*. Directed by Mark Sandrich.
7.40 **Tex Avery Cartoon: King-Size Canary**.
7.50 **The Rock 'n' Roll Years**. 1971 was the year Cambridge students were joined by dons in a protest, and Tory industrial policy brought out million workers out on strike. Musical memories are provided by, among others, Badfinger, Elton John and the Rolling Stones. Last in the series (r).
8.30 **Horror: Cancer at Bay**. A documentary, part of Europe Against Cancer Week, examining the impact of changing lifestyles on cancer risk. (Coefax)
9.00 **M*A*S*H**. Hot weather makes Hot Lips even more jolly and confuses a number of nurses to quarters when she catches them imbibing alcohol. Then Nurse Baker's husband, whom she has not seen for two months, arrives and Hawkeye and BJ contrive a plan for them to be alone - in Hot Lips' tent (r).
9.30 **Sophia and Constantine**. Episode four of the six-part adaptation of Arnold Bennett's *The Old Wives' Tale* and Gerald has squandered all his inheritance. When Sophia confronts him about his lies he abandons her. (Coefax)
10.15 **The Monk and the Honeybee**. Part two of the three-film biography of 89-year-old artist from Buckfast Abbey, Devon. Tonight he is in Tanzania looking for new strains and in the Bavarian Alps visiting an acary, specializing in producing Buckfast bread. Queens (first shown on BBC South West).
10.45 **A Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Conservative Party.
10.55 **Newsnight**. 11.40 **Weather**.
11.45 **Open University: Complex Analysis**. 12.10 **News** in the Universe. Ends at 12.45.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 **TV-am** begins with *The Sports Show* with bookmaking twins Tom and John Jenkins; 6.30 **The Morning Show** presented by Richard Kaye; 7.00 **Good Morning Britain** introduced by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. After Nine includes a discussion on eating disorders.
9.25 **Thames**.
9.30 **Cross Wit**. Word game. 10.00 **Santa Barbara**. 10.25 **News headlines**.
10.30 **The Time**.
10.35 **The Time**. A short film on a topical subject. 11.10 **Alfonsa**. 11.25 **Thames news headlines**.
11.30 **Make It Pay**. The first of a series presented by Stephen Alderson with advice on hobbies they could be turned into a profit. Today he demonstrates the basics of working to a deadline and the craft of flyfishing (r).
12.00 **The Sullivan**. Quiz game introduced by Matthew Kelly. The guests are Sir John Gielgud, a comedy writer, and a comedian. 1.00 **News at One** with John Somerville. 1.20 **Thames news** followed by *Crimescene*.
1.30 **A Country Practice**. Medical drama series set in a remote Australian sheep township.
2.30 **Something to Treasure**. The first of a new series of the antique programme. Today's guest collector is Bob Holmes.
3.00 **Take the High Road**. Douglas is trying to cope with a possible situation; and Brian discusses Sheila's problems. 3.25 **Thames news headlines**. 3.30 **Sons and Daughters**. Australian family drama series.
4.30 **Thames**. The *Trink Engine* and *Friends* (r). 4.40 **The Moonlighting** (r). 4.45 **News**. 4.50 **Children's** drama series set in Australia.

CHANNEL 4

- 9.30 **Schools**.
12.00 **Sesame Street**. Pre-school series for children.
12.30 **Business**. Financial and business news service.
1.00 **Jobs**. The second of five Open College programmes following the fortunes of 10 unemployed young men and women who are learning how to present themselves when job hunting. In today's programme they learn how to write a CV. (Oracle)
2.00 **The Parliament Programme**.
2.30 **Film: The Cowboy and the Lady** (1936, b/w) starring Gary Cooper and Marie Oberon. Comedy romance about Mary, the daughter of an American presidential hopeful, who is sent to the family ranch in order to keep her name out of the gossip columns. Directed by Del Lord.
4.10 **Film: It Always Happens** (1935, b/w) starring Andy Clyde as a man who becomes involved with the wife of one of his clients. Directed by Del Lord.
4.30 **Countdown**. Yesterday's winner is challenged by Helen Laird from New Zealand.
5.00 **Ask on the Move**. The second of Gerald Durrell's series on how quickly man is contributing to the loss of wildlife on the planet. Today he is in Mauritius hunting for *Calidris* and *Actitis* to take back to his own rapids house in Jersey Zoo (r).
5.30 **A Dream of Jeanne**. Vintage American comedy series starring Barbara Eden and Larry Hagman.
6.00 **Facility**. Five American domestic comedy series starring Meredith Baxter Birney and Michael J. Fox. Part five and Dr Pat Hansen argues that the woman's struggle in the 20th century is more concerned about the search for individual freedom than with equality of the sexes.
7.00 **Channel 4 News** with Peter Sissons and Sue Carpenter.
7.50 **Comment** followed by *Weather*.

VARIATIONS

- BBC1** WALSLEY: 5.35pm-6.00pm. *Wales Today*. 6.05-6.30pm. *Wales Today*. 6.35-6.55pm. *Wales Today*. 6.55-7.15pm. *Wales Today*. 7.15-7.35pm. *Wales Today*. 7.35-7.55pm. *Wales Today*. 7.55-8.15pm. *Wales Today*. 8.15-8.35pm. *Wales Today*. 8.35-8.55pm. *Wales Today*. 8.55-9.15pm. *Wales Today*. 9.15-9.35pm. *Wales Today*. 9.35-9.55pm. *Wales Today*. 9.55-10.15pm. *Wales Today*. 10.15-10.35pm. *Wales Today*. 10.35-10.55pm. *Wales Today*. 10.55-11.15pm. *Wales Today*. 11.15-11.35pm. *Wales Today*. 11.35-11.55pm. *Wales Today*. 11.55-12.15pm. *Wales Today*. 12.15-12.35pm. *Wales Today*. 12.35-12.55pm. *Wales Today*. 12.55-1.15pm. *Wales Today*. 1.15-1.35pm. *Wales Today*. 1.35-1.55pm. *Wales Today*. 1.55-2.15pm. *Wales Today*. 2.15-2.35pm. *Wales Today*. 2.35-2.55pm. *Wales Today*. 2.55-3.15pm. *Wales Today*. 3.15-3.35pm. *Wales Today*. 3.35-3.55pm. *Wales Today*. 3.55-4.15pm. *Wales Today*. 4.15-4.35pm. *Wales Today*. 4.35-4.55pm. *Wales Today*. 4.55-5.15pm. *Wales Today*. 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MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1449.7 (+5.8)	US dollar 1.8725 (-0.0060)
FT-SE 100 1807.2 (+5.0)	W German mark 3.1392 (-0.0054)
USM (Datastream) 152.66 (+0.72)	Trade-weighted 78.1 (-0.3)

THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY MAY 4 1988

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Sterling support weakens

The possibility of a rise in interest rates overseas reduced support for the pound as London markets reopened yesterday after the Bank holiday.

Sterling held to the lower levels established in overseas markets on Monday when oil prices fell following Opec's failure to agree curbs on oil exports. It closed more or less unchanged against the mark compared with the previous day's close in Frankfurt at DM3.1398. Against the dollar it was 0.1 cents lower than the previous New York close at \$1.8725, the Bank of England's effective rate index finishing at 78.1, down 0.3 on Friday's figure.

Sterling money market rates hardened slightly with the 3-month interbank rate up by 1/8 per cent to 8 1/8 per cent.

Bank's issue

The Bank of Wales, which is 75 per cent owned by the Bank of Scotland, yesterday announced a £3.46 million one-for-three rights issue which will boost its capital to £28 million. The Bank of Scotland will take up its full share of the issue, the rest of which is likely to go to the bank's Welsh institutional shareholders.

HK merger

Midland Bank is to merge its merchant banking operation in Hong Kong with Wardley Corporate Finance, the subsidiary of Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation. The move is part of the integration of various Midland and Hongkong Bank operations following the latter's purchase of 14.9 per cent of Midland last December.

Stake raised

Jacobs Suchard, the Swiss chocolate group, yesterday announced that it had lifted its stake in Rowntree to 21.16 per cent after buying a further 750,000 shares at 91p in the stock market at the end of last week. Suchard was thought likely to have been adding to its holding again yesterday and now seems set on raising its stake to the 25 per cent level.

SUMMARY	
STOCK MARKETS	
New York	2056.20 (+12.88)
Dow Jones	2056.20 (+12.88)
London	1807.2 (+5.0)
Nikkei Average	Closed
Hong Kong	2002.00 (+12.77)
Amsterdam	245.9 (+0.5)
Sydney	1444.7 (+1.3)
Frankfurt	3145.2 (+15.1)
Brussels	4726.7 (+35.9)
Paris	310.7 (+0.5)
Zurich	448.4 (+0.6)
FT-30	1807.2 (+5.0)
FT-100	1807.2 (+5.0)
FT Gold Mines	201.3 (-5.1)
FT Fixed Interest	87.47 (-0.1)
FT Govt Secs	98.70 (-0.35)
Recent Issues	Page 26
Closing prices	Page 31

MAIN PRICE CHANGES	
RISER:	
DPCE	303p (+131p)
Calsonic	542p (+17p)
Lucas	540p (+17p)
LASMO	423p (+20p)
Consolidated Gold	350p (+35p)
Hawker Siddeley	530p (+10p)
Glaxo	950p (+21p)
Unigate	250p (+13p)
GKN	321p (+12p)
Tomkins	510p (+20p)
Societe	274p (+16p)
Reuters	497p (+20p)
Securicor	350p (+25p)
Western Motor	513p (+14p)
Mersey Dock	285p (+15p)
Atlantic Computer	357p (+11p)
Microfocus	172p (+10p)
FALLS:	
London Ind Inv	150p (-48p)
Rowntree	905p (-15p)
Hazlewood Foods	227p (-11p)
Closing prices	

INTEREST RATES	
London Bank Base	8%
3-month interbank	8 1/8%
3-month eligible bills	7 3/4%-7 7/8%
Overnight	8 1/8%
US Prime Rate	8 1/4%
Federal Funds	6 1/4%
3-month Treasury	8 1/4%-8 1/2%
30-year bonds	8 1/4%-8 1/2%

CURRENCIES	
London	New York
£1	\$1.8725
DM	\$2.1392
DM	\$3.1392
FF	\$1.3663
FF	\$1.3663
Yen	\$1.2359
Yen	\$1.2359
Index	78.1
Index	78.1
ECU	£0.66099
SDR	£1.37603

GOLD	
London Fixing	AM \$444.30 PM \$445.90
close	\$445.50-\$446.00 (\$238.00-\$238.50)
New York	Comex \$445.60-\$446.10

NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent (June) pm	\$16.10 (\$16.70)
Denmark latest trading price	
Brent (June) pm	\$16.10 (\$16.70)
Denmark latest trading price	
Brent (June) pm	\$16.10 (\$16.70)
Denmark latest trading price	

Packer stake confirmed by Courtaulds

By Colin Campbell

Courtaulds, Britain's largest textile group whose brand names include Courtielle, acrylic fibre, Lyle & Scott knitwear, and Aristoc, tightens, has taken legal powers under the Companies Act to establish that Mr Kerry Packer, the Australian entrepreneur, and family-associated groups are the beneficial owners of at least 3.5 per cent of its equity.

Additional recent buying, which has yet to show up on the share register, could well have taken his stake near the 5 per cent mark, market sources suggested last night.

With Courtaulds shares at 382p, capitalizing the group at £1.47 billion, and on an average purchase price of about 350p, Mr Packer's stake would have cost a conservative £45 million. A 5 per cent stake at current market levels would cost £73.7 million.

Courtaulds, which employs more than 65,000 people and operates in 25 countries, has been on bid alert for some months following persistent mystery buying. It said it had been monitoring market movements in its shares for at least three weeks and on April 21 invoked section 212 of the Companies Act to disclose the true ownership of nominee shareholders.

Courtaulds also canvassed London market-makers and information from these sources was "somewhat faster" than that obtained under the Companies Act, Courtaulds said.

Robert Fleming, the merchant bank, would say only it had replied to a letter from the company secretary of Courtaulds and that it was up to Courtaulds to disclose what information it wished.

However, Courtaulds had no hesitation in confirming that it had been told by Robert Fleming that Mr Packer was the mystery buyer. And it is generally accepted that Robert Fleming's buying was through Citicorp Securities Vickers.

Courtaulds declined to be drawn on the next stage of developments, though it denied there had been a series of "war cabinet" meetings as it tried to unmask the buyer.

It is understood there has been no formal contact yet between Courtaulds and Mr Packer, though an approach by Courtaulds to Mr Packer to try to determine his intentions is the next most likely event.

Courtaulds has built up a strong following in the City under the leadership of Sir Christopher Hogg, the chairman, after shaking off the effects of the recession a few years ago and will be out to retain its independence.

Ahead of the identification of Mr Packer, various British and foreign bidders were being heavily tipped in the market - among them Hanson, BTR, Du Pont and Hoechst.

Textile analysts had long pointed out the attractions of the sector and Courtaulds in particular. Mr Packer, reputedly Australia's richest man, has the firepower to launch a raid on the biggest companies in Britain. Mr Packer, best known in Britain as the inventor of floodlit cricket, sold his extensive radio and television interests late last year for Aus\$ 2 billion. He also cashed in his portfolio of share stakes a few weeks before the October stock market crash.

Mr Packer's fortunes were built up on the media business of Australian Consolidated Press which he inherited from his father, Sir Frank Packer.

British Coal to seek share in power station network

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

British Coal, itself a target for eventual privatization, is planning to take a stake in a network of coal-fired power stations.

The stake in the stations, which will feed power into the soon-to-be-privatized National Grid, is a move designed to protect British Coal's market share from cheap foreign imports.

The privatization of the electricity industry will allow the existing 12 area electricity boards in England and Wales to generate their own power to supplement supplies from the two national generating companies to be created from the existing Central Electricity Generating Board.

At least two of the area boards have already been in discussions with British Coal about building power stations using BC-developed fluidized-bed furnace equipment.

British Coal would put up a percentage of the capital - believed to be about 15 per cent - as well as offering long-term contracts to the power companies to supply suitable coal from British pits.

The fluidized-bed power stations would produce about 200 megawatts of power, about twice the output of stations using existing technology, but the technique has the advantage of being able to burn coal cleanly without the addition of desulphurization equipment which is having to be added to existing large coal-fired power stations.

It is understood that British Coal has already been given an indication from the Government that it will not stand in its way if it decides to follow this route. The Government ultimately wants to move British Coal into the private sector and such involvement in the electricity industry would make it a more saleable company.

It is also understood that leading investment companies have already told the Government that British Coal, with supply contracts to a private power industry in place, would be readily saleable.

Trying Brooks Brothers on for size



Well-suited: Lord Rayner, chairman of M&S, and some of Brooks Brothers' clothes yesterday (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

Profitable purchase by M&S

By Alexandra Jackson

Mark and Spencer has finally unwrapped its new buy, Brooks Brothers, the United States specialist clothing retailer, revealing an exceptionally high level of profitability.

Operating margins, taking into account recent cost savings, are 16.8 per cent, double the normal British retailing margin and at least three times the US average.

This has done much to comfort City analysts who remain concerned, however, about the £750 million (£399 million) purchase price and the group's strategy for developing Brooks Brothers internationally.

Lord Rayner, the chairman of M&S, said: "This provides

the group with a unique opportunity. Brooks Brothers has a very similar philosophy to our own.

"We plan to increase sales as well as bring benefits through our skills in stock control."

Brooks Brothers has 47 US stores and has 21 outlets in Japan, through a 51 per cent joint venture. A third of the products are manufactured in Brooks Brothers' own facilities.

Lord Rayner said there was scope to bring the company into Europe, perhaps by having Brooks Brothers departments in M&S's prime stores.

The £750 million paid for Brooks Brothers to Campeau Corporation, the Canadian property group, includes \$50

million to cover a five year non-competition agreement, and a notional \$30 million for the preferential rights M&S has to take space in Campeau's 740 department stores and 60 shopping malls.

This assumes a purchase price of \$670 million for Brooks Brothers, a business with assets of \$119.1 million, sales of \$290.1 million and operating profits of \$41.8 million.

Costs savings, already in place, will boost profits by \$7 million. The historic cost multiple is 27 times earnings.

Operating margins are 14.4 per cent, or 16.8 per cent taking into account the cost savings.

There will be a goodwill write-off of £340 million

which will be more than offset by a £390 million surplus on a property revaluation.

Mr Keith Oates, the financial director of M&S, said: "We are expecting earnings dilution this year of 2 per cent."

The deal is being partly financed by a 10-year floating rate note at \$1.10.

M&S also has the option to sell food through Campeau department stores, of which 300 potentially suitable outlets have been identified.

Lord Rayner stressed, however, that before M&S embarked on a fully fledged food retailing business, it would have to establish a good supply network to match its British operation.

M&S shares lost 0.5p yesterday, to 179.5p.

Granada's £110m bid for DPCE

By Colin Campbell

Granada Group, which has been eyeing DPCE Holdings, the computer maintenance group, for at least a year, yesterday launched a board-recommended bid at 329p a share, valuing the whole of DPCE at £110.2 million.

Mr Derek Lewis, the Granada director, admitted that the timing was partly conditioned by DPCE's recently disappointing interim results but said DPCE would be a complementary fit with Granada's other computer maintenance interests.

Granada, which had 0.6 per cent in DPCE before the bid, yesterday spent £15 million to take its stake to 14.9 per cent.

In addition, Granada has the backing of DPCE directors and some institutional shareholders to give it another 12.6 per cent stake.

DPCE shares rose from 170p to 320p at one stage, before settling at 303p. Granada shares eased 4p to 325p.

The terms are: for every 100 DPCE shares, 30 shares in Granada and 173 new Granada convertible preference shares. In order to introduce a cash element to DPCE shareholders, a separate offer is being made by SG Warburg, the merchant bank, to buy any or all of the new convertible preference shares at 121p each.

DPCE recently disappointed with interim earnings down 28 per cent from 5.4p to 3.9p a share.

Times, page 26.

Hazlewood builds Northern stake

By Cliff Feltham

Hazlewood Foods, the snacks and pickles company, has been building up a share stake in the much larger Northern Foods, prompting speculation that it is intending to mount a takeover bid.

The 3.2 per cent shareholding was disclosed by Northern Foods yesterday, following an investigation into who was behind a number of stakes appearing on its share register.

No one was available to

comment at Hazlewood Foods yesterday. Mr Chris Haskins, the chairman of Northern Foods, said: "We became aware of someone stake-building about two weeks ago, and sent out various letters to pursue the matter."

His enquiries eventually disclosed that the block of 6.9 million shares had been acquired through an Isle of Man company called Brookline - itself owned by two other companies, Dalecroft and

Claycroft, acting as nominees for a company called Thalia World Finance, registered in Panama - which confirmed that the finance for the purchase of the shares had been provided by Hazlewood.

Mr Haskins said he did not feel under pressure because of the presence of Hazlewood Foods. "It doesn't concern us," he said. "I presume they have bought the shares as a sound investment."

In the stock market, Hazlewood Foods dipped 12p to 226p.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Cray takes 90% stake in German distributor

Cray Electronics Holdings, the engineering and communications systems maker, has bought a 90 per cent stake in the West German distributor of its Malvern Instruments subsidiary, which makes devices for particle analysis. It is paying DM2.03 million (£645,000) for the stake in Mutek-Laser und Opto-elektronische Geräte. The remaining 10 per cent will remain with the vendors, the management.

Cray's agreed \$22 million share offer for Marcol Group, the USM-quoted computer software company, went unconditional last week. The latest deal is being funded by means of the issue to the vendors of 311,000 new shares in Cray, all but 48,000 of which will be held until at least the start of August. The existing management will remain in place at Mutek.

Dalepak to diversify

Dalepak Foods, the food producer which makes grill-steaks, is making its first acquisition since coming to the market two years ago in an effort to diversify from its one-product base. It is paying £645,000 for Fawcett's Frozen Foods, which sells frozen pastry products, although the consideration is variable, depending on the last and current year's profits.

Expansion at Ashtead

The USM-quoted Ashtead Group is extending its plant hire operations in north-east London and East Anglia with the acquisition of the Wimpole business from Willmott Dixon Holdings in a deal worth up to £1.69 million. Ashtead is paying £750,000 in cash now with up to a further £940,000 payable, depending on profits and business done between Ashtead and Willmott.

Metal Closures buys

Metal Closures Group, the specialist packaging company, has paid £3.44 million cash for three related companies providing press services for the printing industries and has taken an option to buy a fourth. It is buying Gilchrist Brothers, Photo Converters and West Park Studios, all Leeds companies which produce independently but share common ownership.

The three made pretax profits of £354,000 on a combined turnover of £6.84 million in 1987. They will form a new division within Metal Closures, Pre-Press Services, which will also take in its graphics interests. Metal Closures has paid £300,000 for an option to buy Gilchrist Studios Group for £214,000 cash.

Reassurance by Siemens

Siemens, the West German electrical group, says that its full year profits for 1987-88 will reach the level of the previous year. Siemens earlier reported that its group net profit for the first half ended on March 31, had declined by 9 per cent to DM602 million (£191.72 million). Its net profit fell to DM1.28 billion last year from DM1.47 billion the year before.

Forward to £1.3m

Forward Group, the USM-quoted manufacturer of printed-circuit boards, raised pretax profits from £912,000 to £1.3 million last year. Sales rose from £3.2 million to nearly £6 million. Shareholders will collect a total dividend payout of 2.5p a share. Forward Group spent £1.4 million on capital investment last year, and was likely to spend another £1 million this year.

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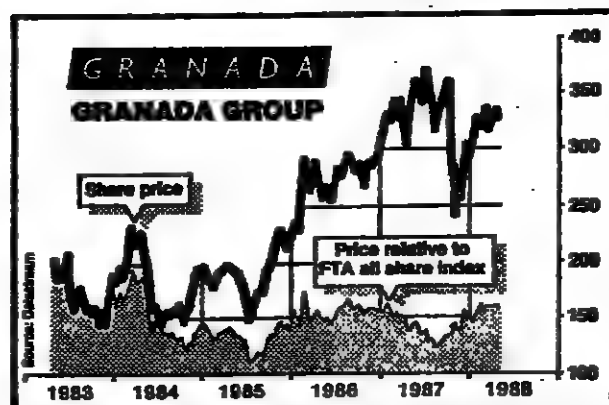
Granada Group has found the right time and the right sector for its latest acquisition, debanking the idea that the company is making too many acquisitions in too many diverse areas.

By moving into DPCE so soon after that company's disappointing interim results, Granada is able to offer what looks like a knockout 91 per cent premium over DPCE's pre-announcement price. And, by buying DPCE, Granada has moved into a complementary service area which is set to move forward rapidly.

Because of the structure of the all-share deal, Granada will suffer a small earnings dilution this year - possibly between 4 and 5 per cent. However, the year's net earnings should still show an increase on 1986's 25.5p a share, and once DPCE is fully absorbed, and the merger benefits flow through, a faster rate of earnings growth will be evident.

Granada first secured a foothold in the computer maintenance market in 1986 by buying Computer Field Maintenance and SMS International Group. It dipped another toe in with its recent cash and share acquisition of the unlisted Mainstay group.

Assuming a successful total integration of DPCE, Granada will have gone even further



into the computer maintenance market, although its overall stake in a market which is still dominated by the major computer groups will still be only about 3 per cent. However, as the market grows, Granada's slice should increase.

The spate of recent deals, starting last November with the purchase of Electronic Rentals, has implications for the gearing level, which was a low 20 per cent at the start of 1988 and has now risen to 70 per cent plus. Gearing will ease as Granada continues to shed non-strategic interests and as cashflow improves, and should end the year around the 50 per cent mark, a level which would still leave the company relaxed.

Additional add-on deals in

Yesterday's £19 million purchase of Graham Motor Group again raised the question, what does the TSB want with a car hire business?

Swan National came into the group in 1981 as part of UDT, a sensible purchase which gave it a useful consumer finance arm. Having gained a vehicle rental operation by accident, however, the TSB has not only hung on to it, but developed it aggressively.

Swan's rental fleet grew by an impressive 33 per cent last year to become what the TSB calls "the largest British-owned short-term car hire company". It also makes a useful contribution to group profits. An 18 per cent profit growth is not bad in a single year.

But it is far from clear how renting and leasing cars carries that magic tag "added value". A reasonable case can be made out for estate agency - it complements mortgage lending and gives extra outlets through which to sell additional financial services.

But car dealerships have no such obvious synergy with the rest of the banking business (except to satisfy the growing demand for company cars as the group acquires more employees).

The TSB's justification is that the development of Swan through a series of purchases is consistent with the group's

philosophy of putting capital behind its most dynamic areas of operation. But to many observers, it looks like yet another example of the TSB's profligate spending and lack of direction.

The purchase does, however, demonstrate that the TSB is determined to obtain added value out of its recent mainline banking purchases. Hill Samuel's corporate finance department handled the deal for its parent while its fund management division, together with Target Investment Managers, obligingly sold the TSB 2 per cent of UniChem shares.

UniChem

A straw poll of 20 leading institutions has given a thumbs down to a £100 million flotation of the UniChem pharmaceuticals distribution business. According to Robert Fleming, the broker, each respondent said it would be unwilling to subscribe for shares in UniChem at a price which valued the whole group at £100 million. This, of course, is the price at which UniChem, currently a friendly society, aims to transform itself into a plc and float in 1990.

The good news for Macarthy is that the survey kicks the project out from under UniChem's valuation of its

own worth. The bad news is that the survey was conducted by Robert Fleming, which has been closely identified with the Macarthy view of UniChem's worth.

That should not be too comforting for Mr Peter Dodd, UniChem's chief executive. The survey also dealt with the question of what value should be put on UniChem from the standpoint of leading institutional investors. The answer, according to Fleming, was a range between 8 and 10 times earnings per share.

These figures suggest a market value for UniChem of between £62 million and £78 million. Even Mr Dodd's closest friends might have trouble refuting the logic of those numbers since they conform fairly closely to the ratings of both Macarthy and AAH, the rivals with which UniChem competes for market share at the volume end of the business.

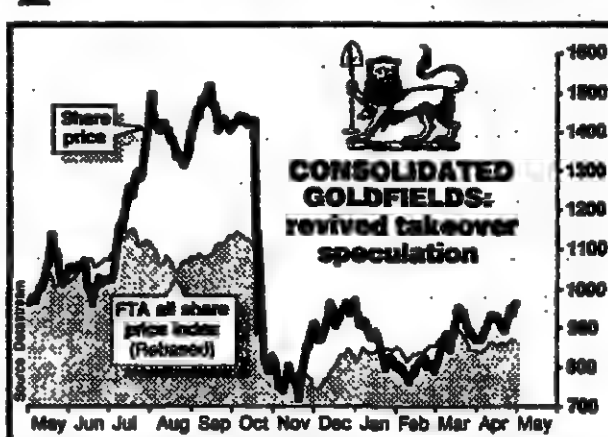
Doubtless, the Fleming findings are unwelcome to UniChem's pharmacist members who stand to gain most from the changes. But they are welcome to Macarthy shareholders, for they suggest the company stands a reasonable chance of winning over backing for its own offer and creating a profitable new combine in the process.

TSB Group

The TSB Group has certainly brought some interesting angles to banking. While some banks have branched out into areas such as estate agency, the TSB has gone one better and progressed into car hire.

STOCK MARKET

Takeover hopes lift Mount Charlotte



111p before closing at 110p, an opening premium of 20p.

Reuters "B" international news agency, jumped by 20p to 495p in thin trading.

Sentiment was helped by American buying and speculation that the group's share

Hopes of a bid soon boosted Aurora Holdings, the engineer, by 9p to 100p.

The group is now sitting on £25 million in the bank and hoping that it will deter the likes of Australian

National Industries with a 23 per cent stake. But dealers are already talking of an opening shot of 160p.

structure might be changed, bringing a flotation in Tokyo and wider institutional investment.

Pacific Sales Organisation, the old leather importer which has emerged as an office services group, run by former WSL men Mr Peter James and Mr David Ellingham and in

had been accepted. Dealings started yesterday.

Market-makers were caught on the hop by the news that American Barrick Resources, the North American mining group, had picked up another stake in Consolidated Gold Fields, the mining finance house. ConsGold finished the day 35p higher at 990p on a turnover of 2.2 million shares.

Reports on Monday night from New York claimed that Barrick had picked up 2.9 million shares, or 1.35 per cent. The news went largely unheeded in London because of the May bank holiday. When trading resumed after the weekend break, most dealers were unaware of the reason for the sharp flurry of interest in the shares.

This is not the first time Barrick has tried its luck with ConsGold. Last year it built

Market-makers lifted Lasmo by another 20p to a peak of 420p yesterday on revived bid hopes. Question marks continue to surround the future of RIT's 29.9 per cent holding.

Atlantic Richfield, the US oil group, is on the look-out for other oil companies in Britain.

up a holding of 4.9 million shares amid talk that it was poised to launch a full bid. But the way in which the shares were acquired annoyed ConsGold and became the subject of a Department of Trade and Industry inquiry which has still to make its findings known.

Mr Tony Berry's Blue Arrow moved up by 1p to 118p on the announcement that its application for an American Depository Receipt facility on the New York Stock Exchange

A spokesman for ConsGold said that the company was aware of the purchases but pointed out that they had been made at least six months ago. It was not unduly alarmed.

Investors did not have to wait long to find out the identity of the mystery buyer behind Northern Foods. Northern has discovered that Hazlewood Foods, the fast-growing food manufacturer, has carefully built up a holding of 6.9 million shares, or 3.2 per cent. The shares were picked up via a number of shell companies as far afield as the Isle of Man and Panama. Stories were circulating in the market for most of last week that Hazlewood was cobbling together a bid for Northern. The news lifted Northern by 3p to 307p but clipped 12p from Hazlewood at 228p.

Hawker Siddeley, the engineering group, came in for renewed speculative support and touched 533p before closing 15p higher at 530p on a turnover of nearly 3 million shares.

Oil shares rebounded from an early depression, caused by a weakening in the Brent oil price after Opec's inability to agree on co-ordinated cuts in exports, to close little changed on balance.

BP closed at 272p, after 266p; while Shell recovered from £10.43 to finish slightly firmer at £10.63.

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

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EQUITIES	
Aura Oil	167 +2
Brit Pet P/P	76 -1
Central Motor (90p)	100
Dagenham Motors	113
Dudley Jenkins (85p)	105
Freeman Gp	205 +5
Gardner (OC)	151 -2
Handley Walker	145
Holders Tech (140p)	146 +4
Johnston (122p)	141 +3
Kitty Little (90p)	110
MTL Instruments	75
Merc Munt New	78 -3
Microtec	125 +1
Motorland Est	125 -1
Morris, Aubrey (90p)	92 -2
PSP (175p)	181 -2
Persant	20
Pennine Optical	48
Printech	85
Polon	129
Reflex Inv	80
Reliable Props	£16 1/2
Resort Hotels (14p)	18
Solihull Aas	74 +1
TGI (130p)	133
Total Systems	85
UK Paper (180p)	198 +2
Vesper Throne (180p)	178 -2
West Trust	45

RIGHTS ISSUES	
Alphabetic N/P	34
Astra N/P	3 1/2
Short Term N/P	129 +2
Barclays N/P	27
Power Corp N/P	23
SD-Solent N/P	23
West Trust N/P	41 +1

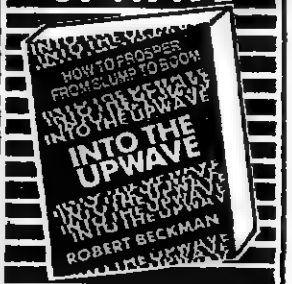
(Issue price in brackets).

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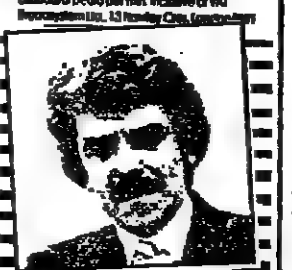
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Jefferson Smurfit wraps up 'excellent year' with £130m

By Michael Tate

Jefferson Smurfit Group, Dublin's paper, packaging and financial services group, more than doubled pretax profits in 1987, from £560.1 million to £1,153.9 million (£130.78 million), even though turnover improved only from £1.07 billion to £1.16 billion.

Mr Dermot Smurfit, the chief executive, described 1987, which saw the absorption of Container Corporation of America into the management structure of Jefferson Smurfit Corporation, the US offshoot, as "an excellent year". The group now manages a paper packaging business with worldwide sales of about £1.3 billion, and operations in five continents.

Earnings per share more than doubled to 31.6p from 15.2p last time, and Mr Smurfit and his board are paying a 2.73733p final dividend, making 3.97461p for the year.

Mr Smurfit said the current year has started well with the US operation reporting increases in both profits and sales for the first three months. Demand is strong and the recently implemented price increases give cause for optimism about the outcome for the full year, even at this stage.

A breakdown of group pre-tax profits for the past year shows that the Irish operations made £10.18 mil-



Gates open to worldwide sales of £1.3bn for Dermot Smurfit

lion against £9.06 million, as paper and packaging exports grew. These overcame the more difficult times faced by the plastics and distributing businesses, as polymer prices moved against the group and consumer spending was squeezed.

however, is the US, where the 78 per cent-owned Jefferson Smurfit Corporation offshoot lifted sales by 16 per cent to £1.1 billion, and saw net earnings rocket from \$28 million (£14.96 million) to \$92 million (£47.4 million). The results turned in by the 80 per cent-owned Smurfit Newsprint and the half-owned Container Corporation.

Containerboard and corrugated container business had a very good year, said Mr Smurfit, while folding cartons and boxboard mills met strong demand and produced excellent results. Newsprint again had record profits, 25 per cent above the previous year.

In Europe, a full year's contribution from the operations in The Netherlands, Italy and Spain — compared with three months last time — hoisted profits from £1.45 million to £1.14 million. Spain's entry into the EEC has been particularly beneficial.

The Venezuelan activities, acquired from CCA in 1987, contributed £12.94 million, but there was a loss of £126,000 from the remaining territories, mainly Australia.

The results were accompanied by news that the Dinagraphics group in Ohio had been re-acquired by Jefferson Smurfit Corporation from the parent group, in a deal worth \$33 million.

F&H cancels rights issue

By Martin Waller

F&H Group, the troubled control systems maker quoted on the USM, has had to cancel its proposed £2.5 million rights issue because of reported losses in February and March.

The shares of the Luton, Bedfordshire, company were suspended at 62p yesterday ahead of the news. Mr Robert Morton, who stepped in as rescuer in March, underwrote the rights and would have ended up with a stake of about 18 per cent had the issue gone ahead, said it had been pulled after legal advice.

"On becoming chairman at the beginning of last week I was presented with February's figures, which showed a most horrendous loss, followed later in the week by another loss for March," he said.

The figures on which the rights issue calculations had been based were apparently inaccurate, and a full investigation by independent consultants into F&H's financial position would, therefore, be necessary.

The apparent losses in February and March alone were in the £500,000 to £1 million area, Mr Morton said. The review would probably be carried out by Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co, the chartered accountants brought in by Mr Morton to oversee the last stages of the rights issue.

This was on a three-for-two basis at a heavily-discounted price of 20p. Mr Morton had guaranteed to underwrite at least 7.5 million shares or 32 per cent of F&H, and had intended to keep at least 4 million of them.

"I've been left as chairman of the company with no shareholding, and I now have a responsibility to resolve this problem," he added.

The further losses had been the result of "a lack of management and financial control," Mr Morton said.

In March, F&H announced a pre-tax loss of £1.59 million in the six months ending last October, and dropped its half-time dividend.

"It does appear that those losses should have been substantially larger, to take account of the current contracts that are running," Mr Morton added. "It's impossible for there not to be management changes."

Mr Morton masterminded the success of Burgess Products, the electronics group, before its takeover by the RHP Group earlier this year, and remains deputy chairman of the merged business.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Investment banks go shopping for business

Investment bankers have moved far beyond the stage at which they respond to clients' needs; instead, they are out touting for business and do not mind too much who they take apart to generate it.

Storehouse is just the latest victim.

Shearson Lehman's retailing expert in New York, Gil Harrison, dusted down the investment bank's file on Storehouse, which grew fat but ultimately fruitless during the negotiations for an agreed takeover by Mountleigh, and took it along to Storehouse to see if there was a basis upon which supposed weak shareholders could be cashed out and more committed shareholders locked in. The talks were no more productive than the bid, and Shearson insists, through its London chairman, Jacques Gillardin, that there is nothing currently open on the Storehouse file.

Earlier this year, Dee Corporation was fighting for its corporate life after a takeover approach from a relatively small British retailing group, Barker & Dobson. Backing the takeover with both cash and its reputation was the US investment banking group Citibank. The deal had superficial attractions to Dee shareholders. Dee had been underperforming because of a mishap with a major acquisition. Its shareholders were unhappy and its management had a serious credibility problem. Investors were being offered cash plus shares in

the new venture, and if ever there was a moment for Dee to be vulnerable to takeover, that was it. The problem was that despite the backing of Citibank, the bidder was not really ready for a management challenge as demanding as Dee.

The intriguing aspect of the Dee bid (which could be revived) is that some months before the bid surfaced, Citibank had been along to see the Dee management, offering to finance a management buyout under which unhappy shareholders could be disposed of for cash, leaving the management and other shareholders with a larger stake in the business. Citibank would collect its fee.

There has been one spectacularly successful bid and recapitalization in the British retail sector, the bid for Woolworth by Paternoster, the Charterhouse buyout vehicle organized by the inventive Victor Blank. That deal has paid off so well that it was bound to attract imitators.

Nevertheless, there is something unsettling about investment bankers, be they British or American, prowling about with break-up plans in their slimline attache cases. Perhaps they should start working on plans to dismember each other, and save on the gross overheads they are desperately trying to cover with speculative and sometimes ill-researched corporate finance plans.

M&S reputation on the line

Marks and Spencer's purchase of Brooks Brothers can be put into perspective by balancing Brooks's 550,000 square feet of net US selling space with the 525,000 of domestic square footage added to the M&S high street stores last year alone.

But Marks and Spencer cannot afford to fail in this, its second sortie into the US, the world's biggest retail market. By its own admission, M&S has done everything wrong in the past and has learnt from its mistakes.

By paying a very full price — which must include some sort of post-October discount — and writing off nearly six times the asset value in goodwill, Marks and Spencer is either convinced it is paying for something worthwhile, or else it has thrown its characteristic caution to the wind.

The deal has been well financed with the initial Libor rate on the £450 million 10-year promissory below expectations. With the bulk of spending on British expansion, refurbishment and systems complete and the charge card established, group cash flow will come up with the remaining £300 million. Gearing remains a comfortable 20 per cent of shareholders' funds.

Even though Brooks is well known, it is hardly a popular retailer. M&S could risk diluting the snob value of the Brooks' product range by spreading it too widely. Indeed, the cachet of Brooks Brothers could be lost for ever if it were brought to Europe within a Marks and Spencer store.

For however much one admires Marks and Spencer's retailing skills and value-for-money product range, its dominant share of the British high street makes it *de rigueur* a middle-market operator. But people shop at Brooks to get away from the masses.

Even so, there is scope to take Brooks Brothers further afield. Its frequent changes of ownership have starved it of opportunities. And although the five-year record looks flat, the business has not gone on growth. Yet M&S has to tread carefully, or it could find the juicy margins drying up.

Marks and Spencer's preferential rights for three years over Campeau's retail space for food or clothing operations have potential and should not be disregarded. But Brooks is not the end of the road for M&S in the US as the acquisition team has not packed up and come home.

Half-time £707,000 for MMT

MMT Computing, the USM-quoted computer systems consultancy, boosted pretax profits to £707,000 in the six months to end-February, from £450,000 last time.

The interim dividend is raised to 0.6p from a revised 0.45p.

Mr Mike Tibbrook, the chairman, said the company had enjoyed an excellent first half which he expected to lead to the tenth successive record full year.

The year included a first-time contribution from RTL Software Services, bought in October.

Mr Tibbrook said RTL's financial performance was a "dramatic improvement" on anything achieved before the takeover.

Staff recruitment was being pursued vigorously, but was being hampered by the dearth of quality personnel in the United Kingdom, he said.

TSB buys car hire firm

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The TSB Group has reached agreement to buy the Graham Motor Group, which will become the latest addition to Swan National, its fast-growing vehicle rental and leasing operation.

The £19.5 million cash offer, which was made via Hill Samuel, the TSB's merchant banking subsidiary, represents a price of 182p per Graham Motor share.

After a further purchase of 1.1 million shares yesterday morning at 184.5p a share, the TSB holds 41 per cent of the

company and undertakings to accept its offer bring its total to 51.45 per cent. It has bought 2 per cent of its current holding from two of its fund management subsidiaries.

The group, which is based in Manchester, has eight dealerships and franchises and a total of 2,000 rental vehicles.

The deal follows the smaller purchase in March by the TSB of Target Motor Company for £1.8 million, and is part of a strategy to put capital into successful niche businesses owned by the group.

Swan National last year increased its pretax profits by 18 per cent to £8.6 million. Its car rental fleet rose by one third to 10,000 vehicles. Over the year it financed, sold or rented a total of 35,000 vehicles.

Although Swan now covers much of Britain with its 100 offices, it is still trying to fill in geographical gaps in its distribution and further purchases of local motor companies are expected.

Times, page 26

Hungry CLF seeks £22m

By Our City Staff

CLF Holdings, the vehicle and leasing equipment specialist, is seeking £22 million from shareholders, as it sets off on the takeover trail.

Mr Tony Barnes, the CLF chairman, is following the current trend for issuing convertible stock, and is offering one new convertible pref-

erence share at 100p each for every ordinary held. The offer is sweetened by the promise of dividends totalling 2.18p for the current year, against the 1.74p paid last time.

Full conversion of the new shares will enlarge the CLF equity by some 36 per cent.

CLF, formerly Combined

Lease Finance, was floated in 1986. Last year, new business written was up 79 per cent, turnover 43 per cent and pretax profits 36 per cent.

Now, the group wants a bigger share of the leasing markets in Britain and France, and is prepared to buy its way in through acquisitions.

Expanding Moss Bros climbs 31% to £1.73m

By Our City Staff

Moss Bros, the formal clothing hire and retail chain, saw profits rise 31 per cent, to £1.73 million in the year to end-January, on turnover up 14 per cent to £24.45 million.

Shareholders will receive a final dividend of 7.7p, increasing the year's total from 6.5p to 10p, and there is a four-for-one share split to improve their marketability.

Mr Wilfred Cass, the chairman, said the new year had started well: The Suit Co., a new venture, had not made a

large contribution during the past financial year, but about 40 new shops would be added this year, including the flagship in Regent Street, London.

Meanwhile, the hire side had made significant increases in sales and profits, while wholesaling had had a very good year. A revaluation of the property portfolio disclosed an increase of about £1 million.

The shares rose 15p, to 1.048p, on the news.

Usher-Walker bounces back with £1m profits

By Our City Staff

Usher-Walker, the maker of printing inks and rollers, raised pretax profits for the year to end-December to £1.05 million, from £705,000 in 1986, when earnings had been hit by the New International dispute and a bad debt provision. A final dividend of 6.2p lifts the total payment to 8.9p, from 8.05p.

Mr Peter Walker, the chairman, said sales volumes for the first three months of 1988 were above those for the first quarter last year, and the

company had made an encouraging start to the year.

But he gave warning that Usher-Walker was budgeting for a relatively high level of capital spending to improve and expand its manufacturing base, including £1.2 million now being spent on updating its newspaper ink plant at Heywood, Greater Manchester. These costs would have some adverse effect on results, but the additional plant would enhance profits potential.

Bad news for lordly gnomes

Orson Welles, as Harry Lime in *The Third Man*, remembered the cuckoo clock, but overlooked one of Switzerland's more intriguing contributions to civilization: *unkulterung*. This is a nifty trick used by Swiss companies to shoo away hostile corporate raiders. There have already been several challenges, all unsuccessful, to the practice, under which companies can simply refuse to register unwanted shareholders. Thanks to *unkulterung*, the Swiss have combined an aggressive takeover policy abroad with security from hostile raiders at home. As a minimum, most Swiss firms refuse to allow foreigners to vote registered shares. This means that while Jacobs Suchard and Nestlé can fight to take over Rowntree, the British confectioner would be barred from returning the compliment. As long as the device was being used against foreigners, few Swiss bankers or investors lost any sleep. But turn the tables and the Swiss start yodelling faster than Frank Ifield delivering a telegram. Fearing domestic raiders, Swiss companies have begun using the device against Swiss competitors. Among the most notable recent cases, jam-maker Hero Conserven Leuzburg fought off a takeover bid by Suchard simply by registering its shareholding. Now Switzerland's usually passive institutional shareholders are angry, and preparing to shout loudly at shareholders' meet-

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Sir Adam on the eve

Expect news soon that Sir Adam Thomson, currently kicking his heels after British Caledonian was swallowed by rival British Airways, has been appointed deputy chairman of the Institute of Directors, a likely first step towards the chairmanship later this year. The IoD's 33 council members have been canvassed

about the plan. Unless objections arrive at the IoD in this morning's post, Sir Adam's appointment will be confirmed. With IoD chairman Harry Rogers due to step down in October, an IoD insider tells me it is quite possible that the council will soon be asking Sir Adam to occupy the vacant seat at the head of the table.

ings this week of drug companies Sandoz and Ciba-Geigy, both of which want to bar any individual from voting more than 2 per cent of their registered shares. "We have nothing against *unkulterung* as long as it is being used to preserve the Swiss character of firms," says Peter Lehner, who runs a pension fund for Zurich local government employees. Lehner is worried the move will depress the value of his fund's shares. Well, Rowntree chairman Kenneth Dixon may have many problems right now, but depressed share values is definitely not one of them.

Good buy

Rest assured that when you take your stockholding business to BZW you get straight on to the inside track. Its morning briefing for investors on *Topic*, the Stock Exchange's screen information system, exclusively reported yesterday that "General Motors soar on news that TSB has

agreed to a £19.3 million offer for the group." And we silly bilbies all thought it was Graham Motors, the Manchester car dealer, that TSB, Sir Nicholas Goodison's new employer, had bagged. So jolly well done TSB for negotiating such a measly price for the world's biggest carmaker.



"Takeover fever"

Now you see him ...

Going off to France on holiday is becoming a risky pastime for Britain's bosses. Each time Sir Terence Conran steps on French soil, for example, someone starts raiding his Storehouse empire. Now another victim of the Gallic curse is chalking on his cross. After 22 years as a high-flyer with IBM and more recently as a director of private companies, Alex McIntosh has just started — and ended — his shortest job. Two weeks ago he was appointed deputy chairman and chief executive of DPCE Holdings, Britain's largest independent computer maintenance group. When appointed he told the world: "I believe that it has enormous potential and I am delighted that DPCE has invited me to join the management team." He then went on a scheduled, and no doubt well-earned, holiday to France. The curse fell yesterday, when Granada announced it had made an offer for DPCE, with the full blessing of DPCE's board. The entertainment group added: "In view of the merger, Alex McIntosh, whose appointment as deputy chairman and chief executive of DPCE was announced recently, will not be continuing with the combined business." Enjoy the rest of your holiday, Mr McIntosh.

Sotheby's appears to have succumbed to the fancy numberplate mentality: the symbol it has chosen for its new listing on the American Stock Exchange is BID.

Joe Joseph

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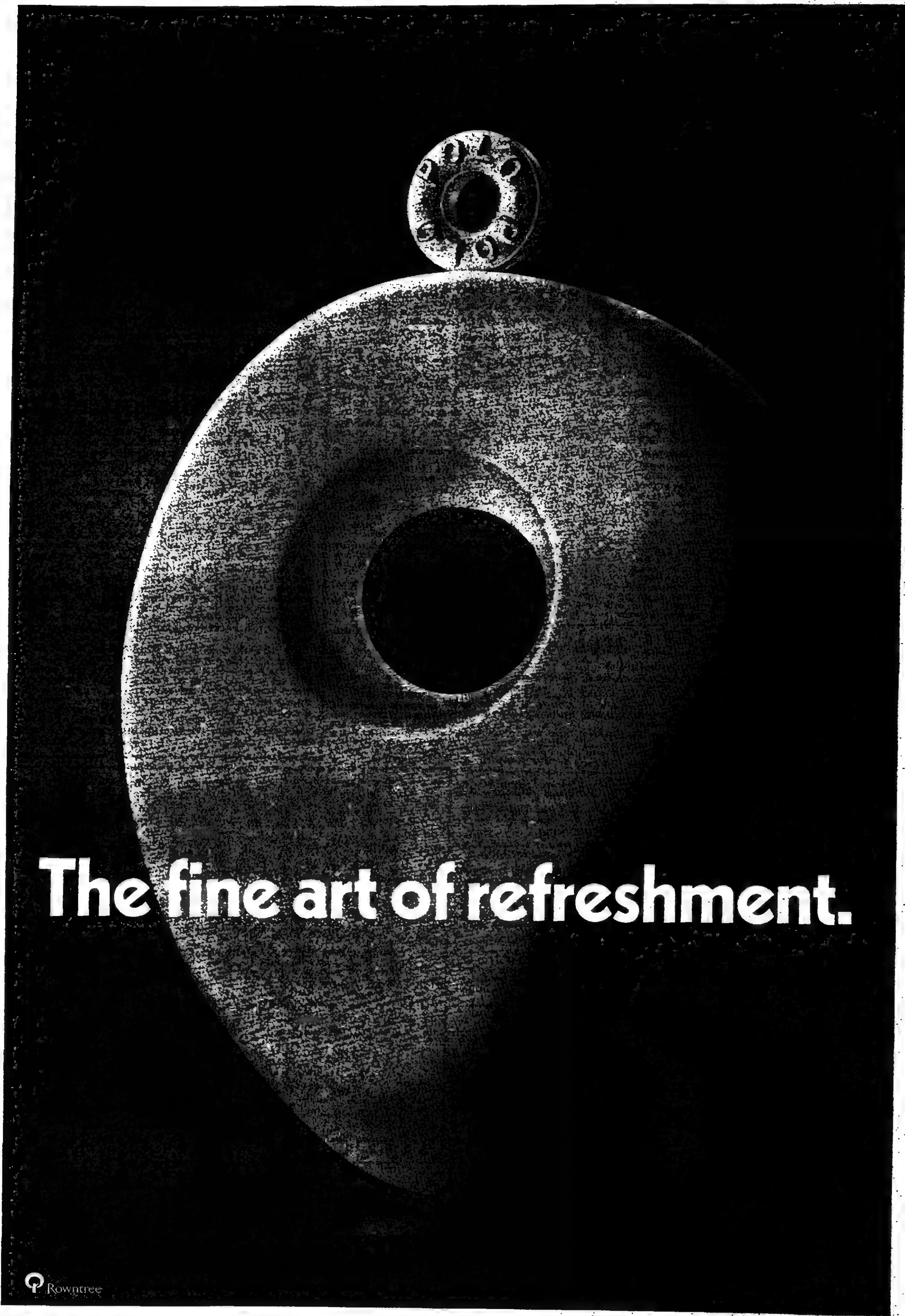
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Cognac battle won by Martini

Paris (Reuters) — Remy Martin, the French cognac house, has decided to withdraw from a takeover battle for Benedictine, the liqueur maker, leaving the way clear for Martini & Rossi, the Italian drinks company, a Remy spokeswoman said yesterday.

Martini raised its friendly bid for Benedictine to £17.700 (£723) a share on April 25 from a previous £16.550, countering a hostile Remy bid of £17,000. Both offers were for Benedictine's entire capital of 140,000 shares. "After studying profitability details we prefer to stop there. We wish Martini good luck," the spokeswoman said.

Last month the French government gave its go-ahead to Martini, a subsidiary of General Beverage of Geneva, the sixth-largest spirits group in the world. Under French law, all bids for French firms by non-EEC groups have to be cleared by French authorities. The Martini offer values Benedictine at £17.08 billion, against Remy's £19.80 billion offer. Before suspension in early April, Benedictine shares were quoted at £15.800.

Aurora to buy steel foundry

Aurora, the engineering group, is to buy the steel and bronze foundry division of David Brown Gear Industries at Penistone, South Yorkshire, for a sum still under negotiation. The foundry will be the new home of Aurora's Edgar Allen foundry, now at Meadowhall, Sheffield.

Edgar Allen will be transferred to the new foundry within nine months. The business will also be expanded by a contract to supply castings to Truflo Valves, part of the Westpark Group recently acquired by Aurora.

Record investment will revive Ulster linen industry

Herdmans plans £17m mill

By Robert Rodwell

The largest single investment ever made in the Irish linen industry in Ulster was announced yesterday.

Herdmans, the 153-year-old family firm, is spending some £17 million on a new flax spinning mill at Sion Mills, Co Tyrone, marking a dramatic revival in the industry.

Foundations for what will be the first greenfield flax mill to be built anywhere in the world for 25 years — the last was also Herdmans' — are already dug. Over the next two years, it will add 280 to the 800 workers the company

employs in Ulster's economically depressed far west.

What is particularly satisfying to the Stormont authorities is that £8 million out of the total investment will be spent with James Mackie & Sons, the west Belfast textile machinery manufacturer. The company is supplying 12 huge spinning frames and four flax preparation systems.

From its low point in the early 1980s, Ulster's linen industry is reviving rapidly. It is now turning over about £150 million a year and

directly employing more than 7,000 people.

A "linen task force" report, produced by the provincial Industrial Development Board three years ago, called for a 25 per cent increase in wet-spun flax output within five years — a target exceeded in less than three, claims Mr Bruce Robinson, the IDB textiles director.

The resurgence — stemming from a call for high-quality clothing linen — has meant penetration into fields where, traditionally, Ulster's linen manufacturers were not

strong: household linens were always their strength.

Despite Sion Mills' remoteness, 98 per cent of its production goes abroad, principally to weavers in Italy and Japan.

Mr James Herdmans, the firm's chief executive, said: "Ferry strikes apart, containerization has made an enormous difference to the ease and economy with which we can supply weavers abroad, and we can supply continental customers almost as fast as any competitor."

Delyn wraps up 55% rise

By Cliff Feltham

Delyn Packaging, which supplies the plastic wrapping for food sold by many of the leading supermarket groups, yesterday reported a 55 per cent rise in pretax profits for last year to £632,000. Sales went up by 15 per cent to £8.23 million and earnings per share increased from 4.57p to 5.20p.

The directors are recommending a final dividend of 0.75p a share, making a total of 1.125p — an increase of 28 per cent. The shares rose by 3p to 76p.

Mr Paul Norman, the chairman, says the company is looking at different ways of packaging, especially in the convenience food area. He said: "In particular, we have developed an anti-mist treatment for plastic packaging of chilled foods." The product is thought to be the first of its kind in Britain.

The company spent £2.2 million last year on new equipment to produce PVC film.



Putting the lid on a successful year: Paul Norman, the chairman of Delyn Packaging

Law Report May 4 1988

ITC claim against members not justiciable in UK

MacLaine Watson & Co Ltd v International Tin Council

Before Lord Justice Kerr, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Ralph Gibson

[Judgment April 27]

A claim by the International Tin Council against its member states for contributions towards payment of its debts could only be a liability of the members under the Sixth International Tin Agreement ("ITA6"), which was an international treaty, or on some principle of international law.

Such a claim was thus only derivable from international treaty or obligation and was untouched by the International Tin Council (Immunities and Privileges) Order (SI 1972 No 120) and was, therefore, not justiciable in an English court. Since an application for the appointment of a receiver was founded on such claims the appointment would serve no purpose.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment on an appeal by MacLaine Watson & Co Ltd from an order dated May 13, 1987, of Mr Justice Millett (*The Times* May 19, 1987; [1988] Ch 1). On an application by MacLaine Watson, the judge had held that MacLaine Watson had failed to show any arguable case for contending that the International Tin Council ("ITC") had a cause of action against its members under the Sixth International Tin Agreement ("ITA6") which established the ITC as presently constituted. Accordingly, the English courts could not entertain a cause of action derived from the treaty and thus the judge dismissed MacLaine Watson's application to appoint a receiver.

Between August 29 and October 23, 1985, MacLaine Watson entered into contracts with the ITC for the purchase and sale of tin. The ITC defaulted on those contracts. The matter was referred to arbitration by MacLaine Watson. The ITC participated fully in arbitration.

The arbitrators made an award in favour of MacLaine Watson of £6 million, together with the costs of the award which were taxed and settled at £711,600. The award was not satisfied. MacLaine Watson obtained leave to enforce the award pursuant to section 26 of the Arbitration Act 1950. Subsequently MacLaine Watson entered judgment against the ITC for a total amount of £6,024,376, inclusive of interest. That judgment remained unsatisfied.

The ITC had assets in the United Kingdom, but they only appeared to consist of such rights, if any, as the ITC might have to be indemnified by, or demand contributions from its member states. To date it had made no demand on them.

On December 9, 1986, MacLaine Watson gave a notice of motion seeking against the ITC an order that Michael Anthony Jordan or some other fit and proper persons might be appointed receiver by way of equitable execution over those assets of the ITC comprising the right of the ITC to be indemnified by its member states for its liabilities incurred to MacLaine Watson, for the purpose of satisfying the amounts due to MacLaine Watson under the judgment entered against the ITC.

The motion also sought an order that the receiver should be empowered to make formal demand on the member states of the ITC to demand contributions from and/or to indemnify it for the liability incurred to MacLaine Watson.

An order was also sought for the receiver to be granted liberty to apply for such further or other directions and orders as he might be advised and all necessary or consequential directions and orders, including directions as to the hearing of the applications by the ITC for orders that MacLaine Watson's motion be struck out.

The ITC gave a notice of motion to have MacLaine Watson's motion struck out, or dismissed. The grounds of its application were that the motion required determination of issues that were not justiciable in that the court had no jurisdiction to determine the existence or otherwise of the alleged assets over which receivership was sought, namely an alleged right or rights of action against member states of the ITC. Such determination would involve the interpretation and construction of a treaty made between sovereign states.

The ITC was not subject to the receivership jurisdiction of the court because it was immune from suit and legal process in view of article 6(1) of the 1972 Order.

The appointment of a receiver of any of its assets as sought by MacLaine Watson's motion would involve interference with

the rights, privileges and functions of the ITC whose status was that of an international organization established by sovereign states and recognized under international law.

The court had, in any event, no jurisdiction to appoint a receiver by way of equitable relief except where the interest of the judgment debtor in the alleged asset was an equitable interest only which, if it had been a legal interest, could have been reached by execution at law.

The ITC further alleged that the relief sought by MacLaine Watson was in respect of money alleged to be due or accruing due from the Crown and accordingly, by virtue of Order 77, rule 16 of the Rules of the Supreme Court no order for the appointment of a receiver under Order 30 or Order 51 could be made.

On March 24, 1987, MacLaine Watson gave a notice of motion for an order pursuant to Order 77, rule 16 to restrain the ITC from receiving the amount of the debt due or accruing due from the Department of Trade and Industry to the ITC or so much thereof as would satisfy the judgment debt.

Mr Mark Latham, QC, Mr Richard Aikens, QC, Mr Richard McCombe and Mr Adrian Hughes for MacLaine Watson; Mr Robert Alexander, QC, Mr Nicholas Chambers, QC, Mrs Rosalyn Higgins, QC and Mr Peter Irvin for the ITC; Mr Anthony Grabner, QC, Mr Nicholas Bratza, QC and Mr David A.S. Richards for the Attorney-General.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that Order 77, rule 16 provided: "(1) No order ... (c) for the appointment of a receiver under Order 30 or Order 51 shall be made or have effect in respect of any money due or accruing due, or alleged to be due or accruing due from the Crown."

If MacLaine Watson were right, the assets which the receiver would be appointed to collect would include sums due to the Crown in right of the United Kingdom.

The substantial issues before the judge were two: (i) Had the ITC any cause of action against its members? (ii) If there was a cause of action, was it justiciable in the courts of this country?

The judge had held that, whatever might turn out to be the right answer as to the status of the ITC, whether in short it was a form of partnership without separate legal personality, or a form of partnership with separate legal personality, or in the nature of a corporation, there was no arguable cause of action which the ITC might have against the members which did not require the court to interpret the terms of ITA6 or enforce the obligations thereunder.

Mr Alexander submitted that the judge had correctly analysed the relationship in law of the members to the ITC and to the trading activities carried out by the ITC.

The tin contracts made by the ITC with MacLaine Watson were governed by English law but, Mr Alexander said, the transactions of the members within the ITC, and any resulting rights and liabilities of the members between each other, and between each member and the ITC, were governed by international law and, pursuant to that law, by the terms, expressed or implied, of ITA6.

Such rights were not justiciable in English courts because, in the absence of statutory requirement, the courts would not exercise jurisdiction to determine rights arising under an unenacted treaty or to adjudicate on the transactions of foreign sovereign states when such transactions had not been submitted by those states to the law of this country.

There was nothing, it was submitted, to show that the transactions of members within the ITC had been subjected by any statutory provision, or submitted by the members themselves, to English law.

The legal relationship between the members could be regarded as starting at the level of international dealings between states and under international law when they agreed to form the ITC by the treaty known as ITA4.

Pursuant to that agreement the Headquarters Agreement of 1982 was made between the ITC and the United Kingdom as host government. The HQ agreement continued to apply to ITA5 and to ITA6, which last treaty was relevant to these proceedings.

The purposes to be fulfilled by ITA6, and by the activities to be carried on by the ITC thereunder, were, as in the case of the preceding agreements, the pub-

lic purposes of the member states.

The provisions of ITA6 showed the agreement which was reached as to the balance of interest and of voting power between producing and consuming states and the allocation of votes to individual states within those categories.

The ITC, in carrying out those public purposes, would engage in trade in the tin market in London and elsewhere and it would carry out responsibilities in international relations, which would have effect in international law, such as the imposition of export control.

Under the terms of ITA6 certain obligations of members to the ITC were expressed: the provision of tin or finance to a normal buffer stock, etc. by article 18, 21 and 22; and to the administrative account by article 20.

The Council of the ITC was given power to borrow for the buffer stock by article 24 and by a stated majority to supplement its resources by any other arrangements seen fit.

If a member failed to pay its contributions to the buffer stock account power was provided by article 25 for a member in arrears not to be counted as a member. Coverage of arrears could be called for by other members but on a voluntary basis.

Article 48 provided for complaints of breach of the agreement by a member to be referred to the Council for decision with a power to deprive a member of voting rights until the breach was remedied. An advisory decision required a majority vote by both consuming and producing members.

Finally, article 49 provided for any dispute as to the interpretation or application of the agreement to be referred to the Council for decision by the procedure there stated.

The HQ agreement, made as required by ITA4, provided for the ITC to have legal personality. The objective of that agreement was to enable the Council as its headquarters in the United Kingdom to discharge its responsibility and fulfill its purposes and functions. The 1972 Order, made pursuant to that agreement, provided for the ITC legal personality in English law separate from the members.

His Lordship found it impossible to hold that the foreign member states could be treated as having expressed the intention to submit to the municipal law of this country any liability which under that law could properly be held to arise on the part of any individual member to the ITC in respect of trading contracts by the ITC. It was not to be expected that the foreign member states would form any such intention or that, if they did form it, they would leave such intention to be limited as opposed to expressing it clearly.

The members could not, he held, have intended that the legal relationship between members as to the existence or extent of any liability of individual members to the ITC could be determined by proceedings taken in English courts by the ITC.

It seemed that the purpose of the member states was to bring into existence an international organization which, pursuant to the HQ agreement, and with legal capacity provided in the municipal law of this country, would engage in the necessary trading activities and become the subject of rights and duties under that law in respect of those activities.

In the absence of statutory provision, English law also prohibited reliance on the terms of an unenacted treaty for the purpose of effecting some change in the law, that is, for claiming a result or judgment different from that which English law would require without reliance on the treaty.

The basis of that rule was that English law could not be changed by the act of the Crown alone in making a treaty, but only by the legislative act of the Queen with the consent of Parliament.

Further, any issue as to the rights or obligations alleged to be created by and between the parties to an unincorporated treaty was a non-justiciable issue in English courts. It was also impossible to hold that the alleged obligations of member states to indemnify the ITC could properly be regarded as arising by implication of law in a legal vacuum in which the detailed terms of ITA6 were to be treated as no longer existing.

Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Kerr gave concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Elborne Mitchell; Cameron Markby; Treasury Solicitor.

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Damages for diminution

Farmer Giles Ltd v Wessex Water Authority

Damages would be given for the diminution in the value of the property rather than for the cost of reinstatement when a building on that property was demolished as a consequence of a defendant's negligence thereby preventing the plaintiff's proposed refurbishment from being economically carried out.

Mr Justice Peter Pain so held in the Queen's Bench Division on April 29 when granting damages for loss to the plaintiff company, owned by Mr Giles, caused by the negligence of the defendant, Wessex Water Authority, when carrying out improvements on the bed of the River Bisc leading to the collapse of the river bank and consequent damage to the wall.

The loss of the building could be adequately compensated by an appropriate sum of money. But to achieve *restitutio in integrum* that sum was to be related to the use to which the plaintiff intended to put the building.

TENANCIES

THE CHAMBERS OF VICTOR DURAND QC

The chambers of Victor Durand QC, presently of Queen Elizabeth Building, Temple, are moving to larger premises in Grays Inn early in the New Year.

They will be looking for three tenants within the first five years of call. There will also be at least one vacancy for a more senior tenant.

Chambers practise largely but not exclusively in criminal law and licensing. Wider interests will however be favourably considered.

Applications will be treated in strict confidence, and should be lodged preferably by the end of May 1988.

All applications, marked "Private and Confidential", should be accompanied by a full curriculum vitae, and addressed to:

Head of Admissions, c/o Victor Durand QC, Queen Elizabeth Building, Temple EC4Y 9BS.

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PLUS NEW
Accumulator
From your Portfolio card, check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If matches or better, this figure you have won outright or a share of the daily or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Code or Issue
1	Essex	Industrial E-K	
2	St. Leon	Paper, Print, Adv.	
3	Richard	Industrial L-R	
4	Magnet	Industrial A-D	
5	Land Sea	Property	
6	PKR	Paper, Print, Adv.	
7	Green King	Breweries	
8	Essex	Property	
9	Person	Industrial L-R	
10	MEPC	Property	
11	Hodgins	Electricals	
12	Dowry	Motor, Aircraft	
13	Mackay	Textiles	
14	Concor	Industrial A-D	
15	RE International	Electricals	
16	Landsea	Chemicals, Plastics	
17	Dever	Telecom	
18	Watts	Industrial A-D	
19	Holbe	Industrial E-K	
20	TNT	Industrial S-Z	
21	Roadhouse	Property	
22	BRP	Motor, Aircraft	
23	Parkland	Textiles	
24	Brown	Bank, Discount	
25	Camford	Industrial A-D	
26	Stanton	Industrial S-Z	
27	Br Airways	Industrial A-D	
28	BIC	Industrial E-K	
29	Harland	Electricals	
30	Hamm	Industrial E-K	
31	Powell	Industrial L-R	
32	Coats	Textiles	
33	Carlson	Paper, Print, Adv.	
34	Randall	Industrial L-R	
35	Recon	Industrial L-R	
36	Wace	Paper, Print, Adv.	
37	Haverhill	Paper, Print, Adv.	
38	BM	Industrial A-D	
39	Daly	Paper, Print, Adv.	
40	Cussons	Property	
41	Dale	Electricals	
42	Avic	Industrial A-D	

Please take into account any minus signs.

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of 25,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

1988 High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

SHORTS (Under Phn. Vests)	1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Quietly firm

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began April 25. Dealings end May 6. Settlement day May 9. Settlement day May 16.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 29).

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

BREWERIES

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

BUILDING, ROADS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

CINEMAS, TV

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

DRAPERY, STORES

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

HOTELS, CATERERS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

ELECTRICALS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

FINANCE, LAND

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

FOODS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

L-R

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

S-Z

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

INSURANCE

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

LEISURE

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

MINING

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

OILS, GAS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

PROPERTY

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

SHIPPING

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

SHOES, LEATHER

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

TEXTILES

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

TOBACCO

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

PROPERTY

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

SHIPPING

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

SHOES, LEATHER

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

TEXTILES

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

TOBACCO

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

Portfolio

PLUS NEW
Accumulator
DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000
Claims required for 48 points
ACCUMULATOR £58,000
Claims better than 48 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1988 High	1988 Low	Stock Price	Change	%	P/E
1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1988 High</

هكذا آمنه الأصل

[illegible]

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

[illegible]

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1,590.5-1,592.0	Denmark	6,463.0-6,480.0	Italy	12,475-12,484.5
Singapore	2,002.0-2,030.0	W Germany	1,676.5-1,677.0	Belgium (Com)	35,045-35,046.5
Malaysia	2,577.0-2,578.0	Switzerland	1,395.3-1,399.3	Hong Kong	7,822.0-7,823.0
Australia	1,385.4-1,386.4	Netherlands	1,890.0-1,890.5	Portugal	10,500-107,300
Canada	1,233.5-1,234.5	Japan	5,687.5-5,702.5	Spain	11,657.0-11,677.7
Sweden	5,573.0-5,578.0		124,75-124,85	Austria	11,719-11,719
Norway	6,165.0-6,170.0				

Rates supplied by Reuters

Source: HONEY and HONEY

MONEY MARKETS

[illegible]

BULLION:
Open: \$445.00-44
High: \$448.75-44

6 mtr 8% 5% 9 mtr 3-8% 12 mtr 5% 9
 Sterling Cds (Yr) 12 mtr 7% 7%
 3 mtr 9% 9% 6 mtr 8% 9% 12 mtr 9% 8%
 Dollar Cds (Yr) 6 mtr 7.05-7.00
 3 mtr 7.25-7.20 6 mtr 7.50-7.45 12 mtr 7.50-7.45
ECB
 Fixed Rate Sterling (Excl. Reserve)

ngrt 346.25-446.75 Low: 343.50-444.00
COINS: Per coin (Ex VAT)
 Britannia: \$458.00-483.00 (2244.50-247.50)
 Klugetrump: \$444.50-467.50 (2237.50-226.50)
 Mapleleaf (1/oz): \$458.00-483.00 (2244.50-247.50)
 American Eagles: \$458.00-483.00 (2244.50-247.50)

Platinum: \$513.50
Palladium: \$421.00

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Close	Vol	Open
open interest 30816		US Treasury Bo
91.14	9153	100.00

[illegible]

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LONDON FORT		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			
		Official prices/advance previous day			Roadst Well
GOLD	Q W Jones	Cash	3 months		Ten
May 904-926	May 1007-986	Copper 100 lb	1112.0-1113.0	540725	Shane
Dec 924-928	May 1027-1028	Copper 250 lb	2224.0-2225.0	540725	Shane
	May 1027-1028	Copper Stand	1122.0-1123.0	540725	Shane
	May 3166	Copper 100 lb	1122.0-1123.0	540725	Shane
SILVER	Q W Jones	Cash	338.00-339.00	327.00-328.00	60325
May 1057-1058	May 1077-1078	Silver 100 lb	642.00-643.00	642.00-643.00	121500
Dec 1057-1058	May 1127-1128	Silver 250 lb	1284.00-1285.00	1284.00-1285.00	121500
May 1073-1074	May 1187-1188	Silver Stand	651.00-652.00	652.00-653.00	121500
Dec 1073-1074	May 1237-1238	Silver 100 lb	1264.00-1265.00	1264.00-1265.00	121500
	May 7891	Silver 250 lb	2528.00-2529.00	2528.00-2529.00	121500
SUGAR	Q W Jones	Aluminum 100 lb	1750.00-1751.00	1750.00-1751.00	1750.00-1751.00
May 1057-1058	May 1077-1078	Aluminum 250 lb	3500.00-3501.00	3500.00-3501.00	3500.00-3501.00
Dec 1057-1058	May 1127-1128	Nickel	17500.00-17501.00	17500.00-17501.00	17500.00-17501.00
May 1073-1074	May 1187-1188				
Dec 1073-1074	May 1237-1238				
	May 7891				
IRON	Q W Jones				
May 1057-1058	May 1077-1078				
Dec 1057-1058	May 1127-1128				
May 1073-1074	May 1187-1188				
Dec 1073-1074	May 1237-1238				
	May 7891				
STEEL	Q W Jones				
May 1057-1058	May 1077-1078				
Dec 1057-1058	May 1127-1128				
May 1073-1074	May 1187-1188				
Dec 1073-1074	May 1237-1238				
	May 7891				
COAL	Q W Jones				
May 1057-1058	May 1077-1078				
Dec 1057-1058	May 1127-1128				
May 1073-1074	May 1187-1188				
Dec 1073-1074	May 1237-1238				
	May 7891				
WHEAT	Q W Jones				
May 1057-1058	May 1077-1078				
Dec 1057-1058	May 1127-1128				
May 1073-1074	May 1187-1188				
Dec 1073-1074	May 1237-1238				
	May 7891				
BARLEY	Q W Jones				
May 1057-1058	May 1077-1078				
Dec 1057-1058	May 1127-1128				
May 1073-1074	May 1187-1188				
Dec 1073-1074	May 1237-1238				
	May 7891				
RYE	Q W Jones				
May 1057-1058	May 1077-1078				
Dec 1057-1058	May 1127-1128				
May 1073-1074	May 1187-1188				
Dec 1073-1074	May 1237-1238				
	May 7891				
SOYABEAN	Q W Jones				
May 1057-1058	May 1077-1078				
Dec 1057-1058	May 1127-1128				
May 1073-1074	May 1187-1188				
Dec 1073-1074	May 1237-1238				
	May 7891				
WHEAT	Q W Jones				
May 1057-1058	May 1077-1078				
Dec 1057-1058	May 1127-1128				
May 1073-1074	May 1187-1188				
Dec 1073-1074	May 1237-1238				
	May 7891				

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

01-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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JOBSLOT DRAKE PERSONNEL

NOTHING BUT THE BEST! £11,000

Join this expanding company as PA to the Chairman and MD, and enjoy the most beautiful reception based office overlooking Hyde Park. Get involved with all aspects of client liaison. Your typing and shorthand skills are essential for this excellent career move.

Call Tracey Silk on 01-734 0911

EXHIBITION ORGANISER £9,000++

Unparalleled benefits including £11,000 extra days off at bank holiday, expenses paid whilst attending exhibitions, plus profit share scheme when you join this famous organisation who dub themselves 'people's company'. Loads of laughs and a guaranteed career path in return for ambition and hard work.

Call Virginia Deyong on 01-629 4031

STRIKE IT RICH!!! £11,000++ perks

Develop your career by utilising your previous secretarial experience, but more responsible role, which offers prospects training and lots of responsibility. You will mix with people from the entertainment industry. Whilst also keeping your head on the ground. This Radio Station needs you now!

Call Suzanne Kenna on 01-734 0911

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT £12,000++

Looking for a challenge? Then this could be it. You will be handling management queries, maintaining accurate records, own correspondence, liaising with clients and organising the office. Accurate typing, audio or shorthand needed.

Call Sue Pope on 01-734 0911

PUBLISHING PA £13,000

Join this world-renowned company as PA to the Personnel Director. Use your initiative and liaise at the highest level. Become indispensable by assisting with long term personnel plans. An excellent chance to enter the world of publishing. Shorthand essential.

Call Sarah Mendel on 01-831 0666

PUBLISHING PA £13,000

Join this world-renowned company as PA to the Personnel Director. Use your initiative and become indispensable in this challenging role. Dealing at the highest level, you will advise and assist with long-term personnel plans. Shorthand and WP needed.

Call Sarah Mendel on 01-831 0666

DEVELOPMENT £11,000++

A company with an eye for the future! This fabulous import, export company are looking for an assistant to the publishing manager. Be responsible for looking after administration and correspondence. The position offers lots of variety and challenge. If you have typing and WP skills.

Call Sharon Kay on 01-221 5072

PROPERTY SECRETARY £11,000

Learn about the exciting world of property while you assist the director of this young friendly company. Co-ordinate property sales, liaise with agencies and enjoy a hectic life with masses of variety. Excellent prospects. Shorthand and WP/Audio skills essential.

Call Liz Drake on 01-734 0911

PROFES-SIONAL PA £12,000++

Promote yourself! This dynamic Swedish investment bank is offering a challenging career and real recognition. Organise this dynamic Director, and enjoy lots of client contact. If you have good shorthand, typing and a calm confident manner is required. This is a superb opportunity with excellent perks.

Call Sue Lindern on 01-629 4031

DIRECTORS CHOICE £11,500++

A true PA role to a Director of this prestigious international company. Total involvement arranging travel itineraries dealing with clients and keeping the office in an even keel when your boss is away. A truly frontline position with fabulous company benefits in return for excellent secretarial skills.

Call Virginia Deyong on 01-629 4031

Be seen with the right company

International Oil Company

Experienced Secretary

West London Employee Relations Dept. Amoco (UK) Exploration Company is currently based in Central London but we are moving to prestigious new offices near Ealing, West London, in October 1988.

We currently have a vacancy which offers a great deal of scope for an experienced Secretary to use administrative ability to organise our small, busy Employee Relations function.

In addition to excellent secretarial and word processing skills, you must be capable of working with minimum supervision, be a self-starter, enjoy dealing with people at all levels and be able to work well under pressure.

You will be working on the most up-to-date technology and full training will be provided.

We are offering a highly competitive salary, £2.20 per day LVs, an in-house restaurant, 4 weeks' holiday, staggered working hours and a pension scheme.

Please send a resume to:

Miss Kate Blackman
Employee Relations Department
Amoco (UK) Exploration Company
Amoco House, 1 Stephen Street
Tottenham Court Road
London W1P 2AU. Tel: 01-927 2258



SECRETARIAL & ADMINISTRATION

BANK ON YOUR FUTURE £12,000 + BENEFITS PACKAGE

Enjoy excellent fringe benefits that include mortgage subsidy, six monthly reviews, paid overtime, bonuses and much more when you join this prestigious City Bank.

As a senior secretary in this fast moving international environment you will have a full PA Sec function plus excellent career prospects.

100 wpm Shorthand/60 wpm Typing needed. 'A' level education ideal.

For further information please call
PENELLA PRICE/FIONA CUSICK on
01-638 9205 or 01-588 6674

6 Broad Street Place, Blomfield Street, London EC2R 7JH

TOP PROPERTY GROUP £14,000 + BONUSES

Assist two Directors of highly successful Property Company in the superb new West End offices. Ideally 27-35+. You'll co-ordinate activities and be involved in all new developments.

TOP PEOPLE'S HEAD HUNTERS £14,000+

Help with ultra high level executive search where discretion is your byword. Most challenging and fascinating. Audio needed. 26-35.

MATURE PA/SEC 30-50 to £11,500

Good organising Sec to assist two Partners and run office/recruit staff etc. Your warm personality will be appreciated near Kings Cross.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU

RING YOUR NEAREST OFFICE

Fleet Street 353 7696 or Regent Street 439 1240

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Continued on page 36

MEDIA & MARKETING

Why the word is worth a thousand TV pictures

OPINION

Libby Purves

Sometimes, a small thing can catch you on the raw and bring on a quite irrational fit of fury. It happened collectively to a group of us in a Radio 4 office the other week: spitting mad, we were, about something so tiny as to be almost imperceptible.

All that happened was that a London evening paper printed an ordinary sort of bread-and-butter interview about sailing. It had been done on the telephone, but was perfectly accurately quoted: no complaints about the text. But above the text — and here we all began to foam at the mouth — some casual sub-editor had written "Libby Purves, TV presenter".

Why were we so cross? It was not only because of the inaccuracy of it: though I have presented only one short television series in my life, low-profile and late on Sunday nights, and it ended six years ago. I have been a Radio 4 presenter, however, for a decade, and this interview was actually set up by the Radio 4 press office.

But what got right up all our noses was the underlying suggestion that in order to make someone seem worth talking to, they ought really to be defined as a "TV presenter", even if they are really radio. The sub-editor in question probably thought it was a compliment, like calling some half-baked actress a "new star" or dubbing a dim local MP a "rising backbencher", or using that wonderfully unverifiable phrase of a sportsman, "tipped for the next Olympics".

If you are in the media, the suggestion was, you are no one unless you're a television

presenter. By which reckoning Debbie Greenwood and Keith Chegwin and Anneka Rice (amongst Brian Redhead and Sue MacGregor and Gordon Clough; and the dimmest, shriekiest quiz-show is a higher destiny for mankind than *The World at One*.

Not many of us would be so chauvinistic as to claim that radio is better than television. For every one of its auto-cuey puppets with nothing much beneath a winsome head of curls, television can undoubtedly point to a real star: a Sue Lawley, a Kate Adie, a Mavis Nicholson (and look what happened to her).

It is just that, despite its more modest image, radio demands every bit as much from its presenters as does television. Indeed, often it asks far more: we are not given the option of getting away with murder by smiling prettily (if female) or cultivating a crooked grin or stern, noble frown (if male). When we have trouble, we have to get out of it by using words in the right order.

Recently, several television-bred presenters have actually managed to transfer successfully to the more demanding and verbally agile medium of Radio 4 — Sue Lawley, Nick Ross, Russell Harty. But many others have tried and failed, and it would be unkind even to name them. Radio may be easier physically — you can slouch,

grinace, and have unpolished shoes — but mentally it is far, far, more difficult. And radio producers drive you harder: it is a rare television producer who speaks sharply to a slipshod presenter, because TV presenters are precious.

Moreover — another reason I and others reject the dubious compliment of being turned into a "TV presenter" — most of us are actually rather proud of British radio. I can speak without bias: even if you happen to think *Midweek* is a load of codswallop, you must admit that Radio 4 in general is quite wonderful.

Monica Dickens, returning from 35 years in America, told me last month that she cannot conceive how she survived so long without it: other expatriates write, wistfully, from the edges of the reception area in Belgium and France, bewailing the shaky reception of *Science Now* or *Woman's Hour*.

Any long dull car journey across England can be transformed into a real time educational experience: the other day between Manchester and Ipswich, I learned all about the astonishing state of Brunel, seethed at the devious ways of the food industry, sniffled helplessly at a sad and intimate true story, and giggled at a wicked little play which, had it been on television, would have been the talk of the town all week.

Radio 4 is rich, it is intelligent, a medium for grown-ups. Television hunches between the sublime and the ridiculous. TV presenter, indeed! With compliments like that, who needs insults?

Libby Purves is a freelance broadcaster and journalist

That phenomenon of the waiting

room, *National Geographic*, is

100. Antony Rouse marvels at the world's fourth biggest seller

Once upon a time there were *Lilliput* and *Men Only* and *Health and Efficiency* and boys would look at these under the bedclothes. There was also *National Geographic* magazine which, through some bizarre quirk of the adult mind, teachers positively encouraged their pupils to read.

Drumming up subscriptions in its April issue, *National Geographic* invites you to "pass on the wonder". The wonder, to all males now over 40, was their first glimpse of the female breast since infancy (the first in the magazine, in 1896, was Zulu). The gap in the adolescent fantasy market which *National Geographic* filled has long since been taken over by other magazines, and *National Geographic* itself has gone straight. But it has not damaged the circulation.

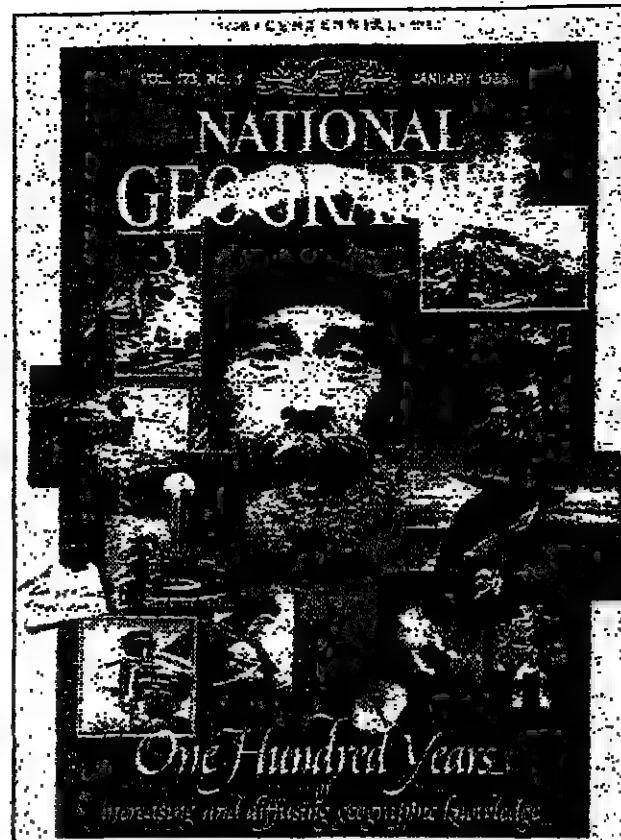
The thing is a publishing phenomenon. When Wilbur Garrett was made editor in 1980 he said it was "like being given control of apple pie and motherhood". He now controls the fourth highest circulation in the world: the *Reader's Digest* worldwide with 17.7 million, then *Modern Maturity*, which may not be familiar to you but is to 16 million retired Americans who subscribe to it.

National Geographic celebrates its centenary this year, and next month our own Royal Geographical Society

will pin a medal on its collective chest for long service and good conduct. The magazine goes to about 10.5 million people by subscription; it is not on American news-stands. It has regional editions, but if you want to advertise in it worldwide it will cost you \$168,590 (£88,731) for a full page in colour. It carries ads only at front and back; they are not allowed to intrude on the articles. The prose is moderate. The photographs are consistently stunning, somehow diminishing even writers as good as Paul Theroux.

National Geographic has worked out that it would take a bookshelf 52 miles long to accommodate its print run. America's National Geographic Society needs 1,100 people to deal with members and their subscriptions. The society receives 21.5 million pieces of mail each year and sends out 380 million. Its subscription income is around \$300 million a year, and the enterprise is non-profit-making: it spends the surplus on expeditions, on education and research.

It is an example of Scottish genius. The inventor Alexander Graham Bell "inherited" the presidency of the society from his father-in-law, Bell, who had invented the telephone and the gramophone, was worrying about the aeroplane at the time and gave little thought to the society's failing magazine. When he



The editorial formula has hardly changed: the sales stay high

had a moment, he offered the job of running it to identical twins called Grosvenor, Gilbert accepted.

When he had hired Grosvenor, Bell thought a bit more and came up with a winner: a very expensive-looking letter began dropping on to American doorsteps. "I have the honour to inform you that you have been recommended for membership," it said, and the money rolled in. Grosvenor married Bell's daughter, Elsie, and edited the magazine for

more than 50 years. His grandson, Gilbert H. Grosvenor, is now president of the National Geographic Society.

For the first 80 or so years of its life the magazine deliberately wore rose-coloured spectacles. "Only what is of a kindly nature is printed about any country or people," it proclaimed, "everything unpleasant or unduly critical being avoided." So how do you report "Changing Berlin" in 1937? If you were a man called Douglas Chandler, who wrote: "To develop boys and

girls in body and mind; and thus to ensure a sturdy race to defend Germany in the future, is a policy of the present government."

The policy of sweetness and light did not change until the 1970s. That was partly force of circumstance. When the magazine started, Western man was not out to tame the wilderness and was not bothered about destroying it. Also there is less wilderness now left unexplored.

National Geographic looks impregnable in the United States. Geo, a very successful German magazine which also publishes in France, was launched in America a few years ago but soon baled out.

National Geographic has much the biggest circulation for a magazine of its kind in this country — 185,000. After that there is *World*, which started last year. It is in colour throughout and claims a circulation of about 70,000, about double the circulation of *The Geographical Magazine*, which was started in 1933 by Michael Huxley, who took some months off from the Foreign Office to launch it.

The *Geographical Magazine*, published under licence from the Royal Geographical Society, has had various owners since now United Newspapers. It says its circulation is up 11 per cent in the first quarter of this year. But its looks are against it, compared with the glossier *World*, and the editor, David Gwn Jones, must be pressing United for the money to buy better paper and use colour throughout.

It has been running a series on "The Geography of Prostitution". The girls are modestly attired. It is not like the old days.

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BBC APPOINTMENTS

NEWS & CURRENT AFFAIRS, RADIO

Central London

News and Current Affairs, Radio serves every Radio Network. The group produces the major daily programmes such as *Today*, *The World at One*, *The World This Weekend*, *PM*, *The World Tonight*, *Newsbeat* and *The Financial Unit*. A vital section of this part of the Directorate is the Weekly programme output. This includes programmes such as *File on 4*, *Analysis*, *From Our Own Correspondent* and many of the political programmes. The new Directorate came into being last year and the Editors of the new programmes are now strengthening their teams. They are also interested to hear from anyone who has the right qualifications and experience

who would be interested in short term contracts which will be aimed at training for posts within the Directorate.

Please contact Senior Personnel Officer, News and Current Affairs, Radio on 01-580 4488 ext 4107 letting him know the sort of area you might be interested in. It is important to demonstrate a real interest in this form of journalism and to show relevant experience.

From time-to-time the teams are changed around all output areas and the policy is that all posts are interchangeable.

COMMISSIONING EDITOR

Weekly Programmes

News and Current Affairs, Radio, is responsible for over 80 hours of special broadcasting each year produced principally for Radio 4 by The Weekly Programmes Unit. This is to be headed by a Commissioning Editor, working daily to the Managing Editor, Current Affairs, Radio and to the Editor of News and Current Affairs, Radio.

There is to be a greater number of programmes on major issues and policy and strengthened roles for *International Assignment*, *File on 4* and *Analysis*. The News and Current Affairs Directorate is creating specialist units and this team will call on the expertise available.

Your role will be to lead this team bearing in mind national and international news events, BBC Editorial policy, the specific audience and the philosophy and style of the channel within whose output the programmes fall. The *File on 4* Team is based in Manchester but all other programmes originate in London.

Salary: By negotiation.

(Ref. 9305/T)

SENIOR PRODUCERS

Newsbeat
Up to £22,000

As a senior member of the *Newsbeat* team you will undertake the preparation of cues and tapes for Radio 1 News Summaries and for the two daily programmes, from origination of ideas through to studio production and transmission. You will extend a full editorial brief to reporters, correspondents and contributors and lead a production team, especially when acting as editor of the day in charge of the main programmes.

A proven understanding of news and current affairs is essential and an ability to galvanise a team of reporters and producers when editing programmes. A thorough editorial and journalistic background and experience and a full appreciation of the capabilities of available technical facilities is also vital.

A knowledge and interest in pop music would be of considerable advantage.

The Financial Unit is likely to join the new specialist units being formed in the Directorate and we now seek Chief Financial Journalists who will work on a variety of output in an expanding and fast changing field.

The Unit is responsible for a number of daily reports, both voiced and written, on domestic radio news and current affairs programmes, and for the *World Service*. Staff contribute regularly to *Today*, *PM* and *The Six O'Clock News* and to the local radio network. The Unit also produces *The Financial World Tonight* and the weekly personal finance programme, *Money Box*, and provides specialist advice and information to other departments throughout radio and television. From time-to-time one-off specials are offered to the network.

Chief Financial Journalists are often the most senior members on duty and you will need to have a wide range of broadcasting skills, with sound, thorough editorial and journalistic experience, the ability to interpret financial stories and come up with ideas for handling them. You will be reporting, interviewing and producing material often under tight deadlines; and you will need the sort of temperament that is suited to working both individually and as part of a team. Senior Financial Journalists are part of the Senior structure and management of the Unit.

A thorough understanding of, and enthusiasm for, financial and industrial affairs, plus good all-round production skills and some experience in front of the microphone are all essential.

(Ref. 9307/T)

SENIOR PRODUCERS

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PRODUCERS

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RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

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'PM' 'The World Tonight' Weekly Programmes

Senior Producers are involved in planning the overall output, negotiating when necessary with contributors, deploying and supervising staff during preparation and transmission of programmes and generally acting as Editor of the Day.

You must have thorough editorial and journalistic experience, a proven understanding of current affairs based on a technical interest in a wide variety of subjects, good political judgement, the ability to provide original programme ideas based on home and foreign news developments, a full appreciation of the capabilities of available technical facilities and if possible a working knowledge of another language.

'File on 4' is based in Manchester for which the salary (excluding London Weighing) will be up to £18,200 p.a. (Ref. 9308/T)

'Today' 'The World at One' 'PM' 'The World Tonight' Special Current Affairs Programmes

Producers originate ideas, arrange and produce interviews, discussions and short features and act as studio producers.

You will need a lively and informed interest in all current affairs together with sound editorial judgement. The ability to handle and develop new material and topical events, adaptability and knowledge of studio and technical facilities all essential.

(Ref. 9309/T)

'Today' 'The World This Weekend' ...

These are new posts providing support for producers, presenters and reporters by assessing and collating potential programme material.

You will be expected to contribute and develop ideas for programmes, assist in the preparation of scripts and will need editorial judgement and the ability to set up interviews and book lines.

You should have a keen interest in News and Current Affairs, good knowledge of radio production methods and reference sources, ability to fit into a team and liaise effectively with people at all levels, initiative and imagination.

A capacity for absorbing large amounts of information and distilling into possible programme material will be an advantage.

(Ref. 9310/T)

'The World at One' 'PM' 'The World This Weekend' ... Radio Production Assistants work on all three programmes. Duties include attendance in Studios, contacting contributors, booking performers and facilities, locating illustration material, typing scripts etc., and copyright clearance.

A capacity to use initiative, organising ability, sympathy and tact in dealing with a wide range of contacts inside and outside the BBC are all necessary, as is ability to work accurately under pressure without supervision, good typing and shorthand and an interest in topical affairs.

(Ref. 9311/T)

Contact us immediately for application form (quote appropriate ref and enclose sase) BBC Corporate Recruitment Services, London W1A 1AA. Tel: 01-927 5799.

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You will need proven journalistic skill and sound editorial judgement, experience of fast-moving broadcast journalism, good broadcasting voice, and the ability to lead staff and take important decisions under pressure. A lively mind and a well-informed interest not only in Welsh affairs but also in UK and international news is also essential.

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requires a dynamic, self-motivated secretary. Good shorthand and typing skills are essential. Experience of word processing would be an asset. Enthusiasm and a willingness to get involved, coupled with the ability to work on one's own initiative within a wide and varied range of duties are also of paramount importance.

This position carries a competitive salary, five weeks annual leave, and other benefits associated with a large organisation.

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MEDIA & MARKETING

Using celebrities
to sell products
on television
has always been a
tricky business.
Now, reports
Carys Bowen-Jones,
the IBA is likely to
make it trickier

Sales pitch by starlight

Later this month the Home Office is expected to ratify a revised IBA code on alcohol advertising that could severely limit the use of personalities who are considered to appeal to the young. Harp-lager has already anticipated the change by dropping Jonathan Ross from its commercials in August.

Harp's agency, BSB Dorland, thinks it will have had a good run for its money and doubtless there will be enough new takers for Ross's services to keep him in clover, but the use of celebrities can be a fraught area for advertisers. The wisdom behind Bob Geldof's improbable appearance in the National Dairy Council's new advertising campaign for milk has its roots in market research. He is thought to embody the sort of fashionable individualism that will help pull milk sales out of the doldrums. If the marriage of Geldof and Gold Top does prove to be a winning formula, then his fee of around £80,000 will have been well spent.

"We think it represents good value," says Peter Hartley, management supervisor at Allen Brady & Marsh, the agency that will place the Dairy Council's £10 million budget in the next 18 months.

The advertising industry's appetite for celebrity presence is to add impact, cachet and credibility to the

message is as voracious as it has ever been. Geldof's fee and the much-publicized £75,000 said to have gone to Lenny Henry for his role in an Abbey National cinema advertisement are at the top end of a £50,000-£80,000 range which television commercial producers say is the current market rate.

Under the usual contract, an artist will be barred from appearing in commercials for a competing product. If the advertiser wants sole rights to the artist, the fee will rocket — one British comedian has been paid £170,000 for a year's exclusive contract involving a maximum of eight commercials.

Lesser-known actors and actresses make do with a great deal less. A minimum of £95 per day for the making of a commercial is stipulated by Equity as a "basic studio fee" — more usually between £150 and £250 in practice — plus "usage" or "repeat" fees, which are a percentage of the basic fee calculated according to the commercial's exposure.

The fee for a celebrity, regardless of whether he or she belongs to Equity, is negotiated by the artist's agent. David Trollope, head of television at McCann-Erickson, explained: "Under normal circumstances the artist gets the money whether the commercial goes on TV

Star turns: Jonathan Ross, dropped by Harp in expectation of new rules; Nanette Newman, Daley Thomson and Bob Geldof



or not. Agencies do sometimes try to split the fee into a price for production and a price for airing the commercial to protect themselves, should the commercial for some reason not run. But that's usually very hard to do."

Equity dislikes the practice. "We are aware of such contracts," says a spokesman. "Our members are instructed to work only to a contract approved by the Equity council. To negotiate a straight buy-out is in breach of the standing contract."

But the question of cost aside, opting for a personality as a branding device is a tricky affair. "Personalities have to be used intelligently," says Grant Duacan, account director at Collett Dickinson Pearce, which teamed up with Alan Whicker with Barclaycard. "The way not to use them is in the absence of an idea to give a product some kind of impact. The important thing is to ensure there's a direct relationship between what you're selling and the person you're using, or that the relationship is an intriguing one."

The brand also needs to be strong enough not to be swamped by the force of a well-known face, which might put a question mark over the use of Joan Collins by one of our more obscure building societies, the Bristol and West. Its agency,

Holmes Knight Ritchie, however, says awareness of the Society has increased by more than 30 per cent following the campaign.

According to a survey in February by Marketing magazine, recall of the star does not necessarily mean recall of the right product. Only seven celebrities were correctly associated with the brand they were supposed to be promoting by 30 per cent or more of those questioned. The best recalled were Paul Hogan (Fosters), Daley Thomson (Lacoste) and Nanette Newman (Fairy Liquid). One reason is perhaps the duplication of celebrities in various campaigns, with the likes of Lenny Henry and Jonathan Ross beginning to spread themselves rather thinly.

Conversely, there is a danger that the brand becomes a hostage to the personality — the enormous strength which Fosters lager has in Paul Hogan as a branding property could eventually become a weakness if it ever wants to break the tie.

The celebrity commercial can also be a risky option, and it is with good reason that agencies insure themselves against the twin disasters of death and disgrace. At one time Barclays Bank seemed to be joined, first using Peter Sellers and then Arthur Lowe, both of whom were to die in mid-campaign.

Tugendhat for the IBA?

A new name is being circulated as a possible successor to Lord Thomson of Monifieth as chairman of the IBA, a post that has suddenly become politically sensitive. Ideally, the Home Office would like somebody with commercial experience, but failing that it might settle for Christopher Tugendhat, the 51-year-old former EEC commissioner and, since 1986, chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority.

Thomson retires at the end of the year after eight years in the post, and so far only P&O's chairman, Sir Jeffrey Sterling, (too busy) and Norman Tebbit (who would have to give up his parliamentary seat and his political ambitions) have been mentioned for the job.

Thomson spent a year as deputy to his predecessor, Lady Plowden, so that he could have a hand in selecting the current batch of ITV contractors, but it is now too late to appoint a similar successor-in-waiting, though broadcasting (and the IBA's role) are changing faster than ever before.

The present deputy, the former civil servant Sir Donald Maitland, is considered "too Whitehall" for the chairmanship in today's climate.

Short supply

The demand for good financial journalists is outstripping supply in the wake of television launches like Channel 4's *Business Daily* and Thames TV's *The City Programme*. Next month three of the BBC's best, Will Hutton of *Newsnight*, Paul Gibbs of *Panorama*, and (probably) James Long of TV news, are leaving to set up a new European satellite business television programme in Zurich. Not only that, but Long's opposite number at ITN, Ed Mitchell, may go with them. This is at a time when the BBC desperately needs to recruit an editor and many more journalists for its new economics unit, which will produce a revamped *Money Programme* and a daily financial news service. Little wonder that British Telecom's Citycall financial news service has been trying unsuccessfully to headhunt a £30,000-a-year editor since before Christmas.

Double lessons

This week's 172-page *Times Educational Supplement* comes in two sections for the first time in the publication's 78-year history, thanks to a boom in job advertisements that the editor, Stuart MacLure, is hard-put to explain.

Left on its own

Fourteen jobs will go at *New Society* and *New Statesman* in advance of the magazines' merger, now scheduled for June 10. Some blood has already been spilt, in the shape of the two former chief executives, Rob Hall and Gerry Taylor (the latter still reeling from his brush with another organ of the left, *News on Sunday*, where he was a consultant). Only the *Statesman* editor, Stuart Weir, is staying on to edit the combined title (to be known, cumbrously, as *New Statesman and Society*), while a new chief executive, Pat Coyne, who sold his own magazine publishing firm MCM for £1 million last year, has been

taken on for six months. *New Society* staff are calling the deal a sell-out, claiming the magazine was on the point of breaking even after a promotion last year.

Paper mountain

Has the point been reached where we have too many newspapers? Analysts, faced with proposals for a new quality Sunday from a triumvirate of ex-*New Society* editor and *Sunday Times* man David Lipsey, ex-*Times* economics editor David Blake, and ex-*Mirror* managing director Douglas Long, think we may. "Where is the consumer need for a paper of that quality?" asks Graeme Hutton of Hiltel & Co. "It's just one more eddy in the great soap opera of Fleet Street." Terry Connor of Phillips & Drew says there may be buyers for the paper, but not without a colour supplement: "It's no longer a competitive advantage to have a supplement, it's a commercial necessity." The idea is "not obviously crazy", according to consultant Harold Lind, but the new paper really should share overheads with a daily.

Briefly...

Owen Oyston, former "saviour" of the *News on Sunday* and chairman of Red Rose Radio, has expanded into magazines with the £1 million purchase of *Cheshire Life* publisher Northminster Publishing. *Media Week* co-founder Ron McKay has offered to buy the magazine back following the take-over of its publishers, Patey Doyle, by Robert Maxwell. McKay says the magazine's independence will be compromised... BBC director-general Michael Checkland's 19-year-old daughter, Helen, makes her debut as a radio presenter this weekend on Radio Mercury in Crawley. *Glaxo* obviously has limits: Yugoslav authorities have banned a youth magazine, *Studentki List*, for the third time this year after it accused the Serbian Party boss of nationalism...

Nick Higham

This week a London market research company pilots a survey that could challenge the conventional wisdom on measuring newspaper readership.

Analysis of circulation and readership is normally a hidden area of the newspaper industry. Little is heard from it, apart from quarterly figures from the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) and the Joint Industry Committee for National Readership Surveys (Jincar).

But the advent of Saturday supplements has stimulated demand among advertisers for more regular statistics. Private market research firms have noticed and last month the British Market Research Bureau launched its AB Target Group Index, which, among other things, monitors news-

paper and magazine readership among top-earning (AB) consumers. Burke Marketing Research has also begun testing its new Market Scanner which, from June 1, will provide weekly readership data to subscribers. An associate company runs a similar service in Holland where, according to Burke's David Whittlestone, it has taken over from the established national readership survey.

Jincar surveys are highly regarded but do not produce readership data on a daily basis or give a rundown of what type of person reads, say, the *Daily Express* on Saturdays. Jincar produces only a composite profile of a newspaper's reader by sex, class, education etc every three months. This is based on

Paper secrets in circulation

Market surveys on newspaper readers are suddenly a much bigger business

14,000 detailed interviews in the homes of readers over the previous six months.

Advertisers feel that they do not know what they are getting when they buy space. In television, they can measure product sales against the audience for a particular commercial, as recorded by bodies like

the Broadcasters Audience Research Bureau (Barb). If the *Daily Express* wants to attract advertising to its new supplement, it has to some extent to provide comparable figures.

Newspapers have tried to meet advertisers some of the way. Circulation gives a rather different picture from reader-

ship of a newspaper's performance. But as one media buyer comments: "If that's the latest data we've got, then that's what we'll gladly take."

Newspaper circulation is generally measured on a three-monthly basis by ABC. Monthly figures are available, but last month News International, in a move aimed partly at advertisers, began printing the average daily sales of its newspapers for the previous week. (See the front page of this paper.) Some newspaper groups consider this daring because circulation can go down as well as up, and they prefer to shelter behind three-monthly averages.

Jincar, financed largely by a levy on newspaper advertising revenue, has tried to meet advertisers some of the way. It

produces monthly readership estimates. Its director, James Rothman, has confirmed it hopes to produce data by days of the week. But he emphasizes this is very different from daily data.

Vic Davies, Research Director of the leading independent media buying agency, The Media Business, says it is wrong to compare newspaper readerships with television audiences. The latter have only to be in a room when a certain programme is broadcast to count in surveys. But he believes Press research needs to become more of a "real-time medium", telling advertisers "what they want to know about the effectiveness of that ad in that issue."

Andrew Lycett

INFORMATION OFFICER (Researcher/Writer)



The Organisation: FIMBRA is a self-regulating Organisation under the Financial Services Act. It supervises investment businesses who provide financial services to retail customers, and expects to have an eventual membership of about 10,000 firms.

The Job: A small in-house communications department handles press, public and membership relations. A researcher/writer is required to create and maintain an information resource within the department and to research and draft speeches, articles and information leaflets. The successful candidate will also assist in handling press enquiries and draft press releases.

The successful candidate: will almost certainly be a graduate who has already provided a similar service to an individual or organisation. Knowledge of the Financial Services Act and of the role of the independent financial adviser is necessary. Candidates need to have a positive and flexible approach to the position which is newly-created in an organisation which has expanded rapidly over the last year.

The remuneration package will include pension and other benefits, and will be no barrier to a candidate with the appropriate experience and track record.

Applicants should write in confidence, enclosing a full CV, to Miss Ann Palmer at FIMBRA, quoting reference REC.

THE FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES, MANAGERS AND BROKERS REGULATORY ASSOCIATION, 22 Great Tower Street, London EC3R 5AQ.

TELEPHONE SALES EXECUTIVES for INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (Based in London and the South East)

We are looking for 2 Sales people to

- Obtain leads for our Spanish Teams
- Sell our Services/Products

To qualify for an interview you must:

- be self motivated
- be aged 25 - 30 years
- have track record indirect sales
- have telephone sales experience
- be goal orientated
- be prepared for some evening work
- be able to present confidently
- be organised
- be prepared for occasional travel
- have a desire to succeed

CONTACT JANET BUCKFIELD ON 01-69 6187

FREELANCE ADVERTISING SALES OPPORTUNITY SAUDI ARABIA

Leading publisher of international trade reference guides seeks sales people to sell advertising space in Saudi Arabia. Must be available to travel by end of May, 1st week of June.

Unlimited earnings for right person. If you are a sales professional please, Richard Brown, International Sales Manager, on (0968) 669388 NOW! or send your C.V. to Matrix Publishing Group Ltd, Silbury Court, 368 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 2AF.

Group Marketing Manager

London

£25-28K

In the fast-changing world of Cable and Satellite TV, BT Vision is setting the pace throughout the UK. An expanding company involved in everything from developing new cable TV systems to selling home satellite reception equipment, we are now looking to make a senior appointment to strengthen our Marketing Team. This is a new appointment and the successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Marketing strategy and the provision of Marketing Support Services.

The Marketing function has a very high profile and is integral to the future growth strategy. Reporting to the Head of Sales and Marketing, and supported by a large team, you will oversee a full and varied corporate Marketing programme including public relations, advertising, promotions, and research. You will have enormous scope to put forward your own ideas with the full backing of the Management Team.

Naturally you will need to possess

a positive personality, with demonstrable drive and ambition and have a sound record of marketing achievement. The position will appeal to a results orientated person keen to develop a career in a rapidly expanding industry. It demands both a high level of managerial skill combined with good hands on marketing experience. You will be required to operate with a high degree of autonomy and should possess broad commercial skills.

If you believe you have the marketing expertise and skills necessary to meet this challenging role, please reply with CV to: Tim Stone BTAL Personnel, 3rd Floor, Beckett House, 60-66 St Thomas Street, London SE1 3QU quoting ref. 0000-43T.

We are an equal opportunities employer.

BT VISION
part of British Telecommunications plc

THE BERTRAM MEDIA SALES DIVISION

GRADUATE TRAINEES ADVERTISING SALES

As one of the leading specialist sales recruitment consultancies in London we are able to offer a large variety of positions to graduates or trainees with the ability to work in a hectic and progressive sales environment.

Our Media division are currently interviewing for the following areas in media sales:

- Consumer Publication, Trade and Technical Journals, National and Regional Newspapers, Catalogues.
- Specialist Enthusiast Magazines, Exhibitions, Annual Directories, Television Air Time Negotiation.

No experience is necessary but you must have excellent communication skills together with the commitment, enthusiasm and ambition to match the career potential that our clients are able to offer you.

If you feel you have the necessary qualities and would like an interview.

Call us and convince us.

Jo Cooper, Karen Maxwell and Simon Davies, Frank Partners

01-623 4688

58 Mountbatten, London EC3A 7DL

Part of Tashiro PLC

SKY MAGAZINE CHIEF SUB-EDITOR

Britain's sharpest style monthly is looking for an experienced, accurate Chief Sub-Editor who can organise under pressure, meet deadlines, and is interested in music, films and fashion.

Please write, with full CV and current salary, to: Mike Roberts, Managing Editor, SKY Magazine, Rex House, 4-12 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PE

OPPORTUNITIES IN PR

PR Consultancy, well-established, expanding, West-End based, needs one or two more able and ambitious young executives, preferably graduates, min 2-3 years experience. Top salaries related to performance. Early promotional prospects.

Telephone: 01-637-2281

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT EXPERIENCED OR ASPIRING

The Opportunity: To forge a worthwhile responsible career in financial/sectoral recruitment with our consultancy firmly established in the City and about to expand into our new West End office. You will develop your ability to liaise convincingly with candidates and clients while helping with advertising and sales campaigns. You will take part in decision making with our lively creative team and enjoy excellent prospects.

The Rewards: A five-figure salary package which includes profit share. Excellent training. A real chance to achieve.

You: Self-motivated team player with an interest in people. Aged 24+. Some experience in sales, service, recruitment or financial sectors.

Act Now: Phone Maggie Love for a discreet...

LOVE + TATE Appointments

70 Old Broad Street, London EC2 01-288 0111

PUBLIC RELATIONS

We're a busy central London consultancy looking for an experienced PR Operator to join a team working on FMCG and business to business clients.

The right candidate will have a proven track record and strong press contacts. If we're right for each other you'll also be resilient and have a good sense of humour! Salary negotiable.

We also have an opening for an Account Executive with sound agency experience to work on a variety of accounts. Salary negotiable.

Please write with CV or phone:

Mark Jacobs, The Delightful Consultancy, 5, Langley Street, London WC2H 9JA.

01-836-2973

CREATE A CITY SUCCESS. TO £30,000 + COMM

Alexander Mann Associates plc have recently won 5 new City accounts. This has provided us with across the board vacancies.

If you are presently working in the City, or have a successful track record in sales, and you are motivated by considerable financial reward call Sally Gooch. 01-631 3275

CITY RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS. 231 TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD LONDON W1P 9AE.

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Continued from page 33

Opportunities for Administrative Secretaries

We are a major firm of Chartered Accountants based in the City. We now have two interesting openings for self-motivated and personable secretaries with a talent for administration.

Administrative Secretary, Training Department c.£12K

This position will provide secretarial, administrative and some organisational back-up for our National Training Department. Working for three young Training Managers you will be involved with staff training courses and the production of training manuals and materials.

Recruitment Administrator, Management Consultancy c.£13K

This post will report to the Manager of the Human Resources Consultancy Group and will be responsible for the efficient secretarial and administrative support of recruitment assignments and the maintenance of the recruitment database. You will have extensive contact with clients and candidates.

To be a candidate for either position you must have several 'O' level passes, including Maths and English and at least 2 years' secretarial experience. Your skills must include fast accurate typing (audio and copy) and good word processing experience. You must have a confident and well organised approach and be accustomed to dealing with staff at all levels.

Please write with concise CV, indicating the position for which you wish to be considered to:

ROBSON RHODES

Chartered Accountants

Philippa James (Miss), Recruitment Manager,
Robson Rhodes, 186 City Road, London EC1V 2NU

MACKAY for Secretaries

OPEN THURSDAYS UNTIL 7PM

SEC/PA £13,000
Be your own boss! Set up and run busy dept, providing full secretarial support to owner of this newly formed partnership. Plenty of client contact. Audio required. Call Jean.

HOTEL PA £14,000 + EXCELLENT BENEFITS
MD of 4-star Mayfair hotel needs career-minded PA, high admin. & hotel experience. Involved in hotel operations and management. Salary, own office & 4 cars. Call Glynis.

CHOOSE YOUR OWN BOSS! £12,500 + MORTGAGE SUB
Super position for mature sec who wants plenty of variety. Cover for sec to executive level. Newly created post within fast-growing co. Call Glynis.

The Specialist Consultancy for Secretaries
70-71 New Bond Street (Oxford St. end) 01/491 0383

CREATIVE, MEDIA & MARKETING APPOINTMENTS

RECRUITMENT

A BACKGROUND IN SALES?

We are an established consultancy specialising in the professional and discreet recruitment of high calibre sales people. Our expertise ensures that we will place you in the position that you are looking for. Amongst our many current vacancies we are looking for:

SALES EXECUTIVES X 2
Televised Advertising Services £12,000 + £20,000 OTE + Car + Benefits.
Being a major force in the advertising industry, this company offers a superb opportunity to step into televisual advertising. You will be thoroughly groomed into this professional selling environment and offered an opportunity to earn unlimited earnings.
You must have a dynamic personality and a proven track record of at least two years in a service industry. The company provides excellent training and the full support of a sales-oriented team. If you can cover North West or North East London and have the drive to succeed, your promotional prospects will be unlimited.

HEALTH & SAFETY SERVICES EXECUTIVE
£12,000 Basic £18,000 OTE + 1.66% Car + Benefits.
An outstanding opportunity now exists for an accomplished sales executive to join this major Pte success story. If you can prove that you are already successful in a service sales environment and have the commitment, drive, and enthusiasm to create new and develop existing business, then our client will certainly be keen to meet you.

BUSINESS SERVICES - SALES EXECUTIVE
£12,000 Basic £16,000 OTE + Prestige Car + Benefits.
This well known company offer a unique package to business. They now need an additional Sales Executive to cover the West End, South West and West London areas. Your 1-2 yrs sales experience will earn you an unbeatable opportunity to establish yourself in a conceptual selling role and move up within the company rapidly. Being highly motivated and intelligent you will be selling at high level in this exciting market place.

For a confidential discussion on your next career move please call:
01-686 2842 - Office Hrs / or
01-671 6077 - Eve's & Weekends

LONDON • BIRMINGHAM • MANCHESTER • BRISTOL

ART DIRECTOR

International Recording Company, specialising in the production and marketing of classical music, is looking for an art director to design innovative packaging for classical recordings.

Creativity and experience will be utilised to the full in the research and production of quality visuals to illustrate our fine recordings. This will involve the commissioning and art direction of photographers, illustrators and other suppliers in the pursuit of creative excellence.

A formal design training and design experience is essential together with a lively portfolio of work. In return we offer the salary and benefits to be expected from a major International Company which includes 5 weeks holiday, Xmas bonus, pension scheme. Interested candidates are invited to write in the first instance with current CV to Sally Hill, Personnel, Decca International, 1 Rodeley Road, London W14 0DL.

DECCA

SUPER SALES STAFF

Required for consumer and financial sector of a glossy magazine. Basic plus commission. No experience required. Telephone 01 481 5271 ref LC.

RETAIL APPOINTMENTS

FASHION COMPANY REQUIRES

Dynamic people to promote and sell ladies high fashion in either France, Italy or Germany. Telephone 01-747-3826

Marketing Mania!

£12,000 - Fulham

Our client, one of Britain's largest Marketing Consultancies, involved in Video Production, Travel, Conference organising etc. offers a superb challenging opening for a mature, quick-witted self-starter. As a key member of the innovative Training Team, your role will be richly varied—liaising with VIP clients; co-ordinating presentations etc. Excellent scope to define further areas of responsibility. First-class typing skills (55 wpm) pre-requisite. A zany sense of humour essential. Age 20+. Call 01-409 1232.

Recruitment Consultants

to the Communications Industry

THE WORK SHOW

PERSONNEL SECRETARY

c.£10,000 + bonus

One of the UK's most successful and fastest-growing information systems consultancies is looking for an experienced secretary with enthusiasm, energy and initiative to help run a fast-moving, professional, expanding Human Resources function.

Apart from excellent typing and WP skills (a rusty shorthand), the ability to adapt to rapidly-changing priorities and remain calm under pressure is essential. A good telephone manner is also a must.

Aged 20+ and qualified to 'A' level standard, you will enjoy working as part of a team and have a minimum of 1 year's secretarial experience in a commercial environment. Experience of working in a personnel department is an advantage as is a genuine interest in using computerised systems.

The competitive salary is accompanied by excellent benefits including substantial profit-share scheme, private health-care and interest-free season ticket loan.

Please send full career and salary details to Kay Hobson, Human Resources Department, Learmonth & Burchett Management Systems Plc, Evelyn House, 62 Oxford Street, London W1N 9LF. Tel: 01-636 4213 ext 263. No agencies please.

SECRETARY TO FINANCE DIRECTOR

c.£13,000 pa

A major International Property Company, with luxury offices near Holborn Circus, requires a private secretary for the Finance Director.

Applicants should have excellent secretarial skills, including shorthand, be well educated, numerate and self-motivated. Previous board level experience would be an advantage. Preferred age 23-35 years.

A comprehensive range of benefits is available, including non-contributory pension plan, profit sharing scheme, BUPA, and 24 days holiday pa.

Please write in confidence enclosing a full curriculum vitae to:

Mrs. S. A. H. Durrant,
23-24 Ely Place,
London EC1N 6TQ.
Tel: 01-242 6889.
(No Agencies)

Miss Reception NEED A RECEPTIONIST? OR A RECEPTIONIST IN NEED?

WHETHER TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT WE CAN HELP - BECAUSE

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WHAT MAKES US SO DIFFERENT FROM OTHER AGENCIES IS WE ACTUALLY SPECIALISE IN RECEPTION AND RECEPTION ONLY - SO IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A FIRST CLASS RECEPTIONIST OR YOU'RE A FIRST CLASS RECEPTIONIST JUST LOOKING - WHY NOT GIVE US A CALL - YOU'LL BE PLEASANTLY SURPRISED WITH OUR RESULTS.

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ASK FOR DIANA OR TRACEY

Miss Reception

THE RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

Design Assistant

£10,000 plus benefits

Excellent opportunity for a bright, outgoing self-starter to join this prestigious Design Consultancy. Working on an impressive range of international blue chip clients. Working alongside the Creative Services Manager in a full support role you will be liaising with VIP clients; keeping tabs on studio designers; co-ordinating projects; negotiating quotes with suppliers. The ability to flourish in a fast-paced, pressurised environment essential. Typing skills requested. Age 24+. Call 01-409 1232.

Recruitment Consultants

to the Communications Industry

THE WORK SHOW

PLANE, RIVER STEAMER OR TRAIN

£15,000 + MORTGAGE

A fun choice of transport in to work as secretary to the MD heading WP administration and personnel of a company moving from the City to Docklands this summer. Not pressurised - your own office, shorthand preferred, age 25-30, 5 weeks' holiday + cheap mortgage.

01-377 8600 City

01-439 7001 West End

SECRETARIES PLUS

CHARVELLIGH Appointments

ON SHOW £9,000

At this time, a Sales Secretary role which would allow you to work from home, with a view to becoming a full-time sales representative, is available. Excellent benefits and career prospects are offered.

AMBITIOUS ADMINISTRATOR £11,000 per rate
Enjoy the challenge of a hectic but rewarding day when you join this small City Charity as their Executive Administrator. Involving part time role incorporating fund raising, organising accounts, Committee work and more.

FLAIR FOR FIGURES £11,500
The professional firm of Chartered Accountants has an opening for a PA with plenty of personality who would retain the opportunity of demonstrating their organisational skills and secretarial skills. Audio, WP and shorthand in this field essential.

LEGAL LEARNINGS £12,000+
A responsible position within this respected legal firm is just waiting for a mature legal secretary with good oral and administrative skills. If it is you who can take charge of this post and your career not only prosper but also your salary. ALSO FOR WELL PAID TEMP ASSIGNMENTS CALL US NOW.

43 BROMPTON RD, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, SW3 1DE

01-225 1777

14 GREAT CASTLE, OXFORD CIRCUS, W1N 1LA

01-255 3140

A DIRECT LINE TO THE POWERHOUSE

ASK ALFRED MARKS TO ASK.....

The Headquarters of BRIDGES GAS wish to successfully fill the following posts, which are based at their offices in Central London. All positions carry an excellent pay and benefits package, together with genuine prospects for advancement.

COLLEGE LEADER
An excellent opportunity for a first jobber to develop towards a full secretarial role. The post involves copy typing of reports onto a Word Processor plus telephone liaison with other departments. Applicants should be willing to work hard within a team environment.
REF: 0175/3536

SHORTHAND/WORD PROCESSOR SECRETARY
For the Public Relations department, a varied and interesting position which includes liaising with Members of Parliament and arranging their visits to British Gas offices. Candidates will need to be articulate and well grounded, as before this high profile post. Will work on a 'one to one' basis with the Manager in excellent offices in SW1.
REF: 0175/3490

SHORTHAND/WORD PROCESSOR SECRETARY
For the Personnel Division. Will provide comprehensive secretarial support, including shorthand and audio onto Word Processor of letters and reports (client will cross train), for a team of Managers. Will also liaise with various departments via telephone. Applicants should be well presented and be able to deal with matters in a confidential and professional manner.
REF: 01/5/3488

JUNIOR SECRETARY
Very much a first step career position. Will work in the client's excellent offices in SW1 and 'number two' to a Senior P.A. Duties will encompass Audio, Copy and slow shorthand onto Word Processor (client will train or cross train). There will be day to day involvement with Senior Management, therefore applicants must be well presented, enthusiastic and articulate.
REF: 0175/3457

To arrange an initial interview for any of the above posts, telephone Alison Miller now on 01-639 6111, quoting the reference number.

ALFRED MARKS

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PLUG IN TO THE POWERHOUSE

WEST END

TO £12,000 + BENEFITS

PA/SEC/25-40, with really good typing speeds (an advantage), organising ability to assist General Manager, London Office, Int. Merchant Bank.

TO £11,500

PA/SEC. 25-32, 50/50 WP to assist Company Sec. of large Int. Co. A great deal of administration and telephone work. Excellent working conditions.

£10,250

Audio Secretary 40-45, 50/50 WP to run office for two Managers prominent Property Co. Excellent position for self-starter used to working on own initiative.

CITY

£12,000 + BENEFITS

PA/SEC. 25+ 50/50 WP assist Executive Director, plus be part of young busy team. An outgoing enthusiastic person will be involved and appreciated.

£10,000

Audio Secretary 40-45 50 wpm typist, with an interest in assist Manager in charge of overseas correspondence. World major Co. Superb working conditions.

WIMBLEDON

To £13,000

Senior bilingual German PA/SEC. 25-42, 100/50 WP to assist newly appointed Executive of Int. Co. Director level experience requested.

To 11,000

Junior bilingual German Sec. 100/50 WP, with at least 18 months experience to assist two Managers, Int. Co. busy position, lively outgoing personality appreciated.

HOUNSLOW

From £10,500 neg.

Sales administrator, 25-30 with good typing speeds and computer friendly, outgoing, confident personality to organise, coordinate and supervise sales of office equipment of world-wide progressive Co. Modern offices.

Phone 457 8476 or 754 5786 125 Oxford Street, Reg. Gen.

Miller/McNish

Fast Moving Property

£11,000 plus exc bonus

Exceptional opening for a well-polished, polished and assertive individual with this upmarket, Chelsea-based Estate Agency As Secretary/Admin Controller you will be liaising with clients; keeping tabs on the negotiating team; supervising junior staff; handling all office administration. In addition, one Saturday in three you will have a chance to learn the negotiating side of things - therefore previous property experience is advantageous. Confident keyboard skills (60 wpm). Excellent prospects. Call 01-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

HODGE

PA / PR ASSISTANT £12,000

Prestigious PR consultancy require a new account team member to assist with established and new accounts. Emphasis is on client liaison & co-ordination, where previous knowledge of PR and fast skills (100/60) for MINIMAL secretarial content are required. Age 22+.

Telephone: 629 8883

Send resume: 25-30 Whitehall, SW1, London, W1

PR AGENCY TO £10,000

Exciting opportunity to create your own new role within dynamic PR team based W1. Full training given. Age 22+. Skills: WP & fluent SPH.

May Call on 498-1177
Mistprestige EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

MARKETING SEC IN MUSIC INDUSTRY £11,000

Work for progressive rising music company. Own responsibilities + projects in the busy environment. Salary 100/50 + exp. allow.

May Call on 498-1177
Mistprestige EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

CHelsea OFFICES SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATION

£12,000 PLUS

Pleasant, must be experienced, numerical, very well organised accurate typing and WP skills, shorthand helpful, very demanding and interesting position with growth opportunities in trading/finance.

Call Lorraine 01 352 0047

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

London West End - Salary £10,500 neg

If you are an enthusiastic and experienced professional interested in working for a successful film and video services group, please contact Ron Rogers on 01-486-2881

BARNES SW13

£12,000

PA/SEC to Chairman of PLC health care company. We convert statutory health care into elegant patient facilities and operate them. Delightful small office overlooking the park at Barnes Pond lends an air of tranquility to a very busy place. Light book-keeping skills or aptitude a pre-requisite, as well as top secretarial ability. CV, please, to:

The Chairman

Gateway Residential PLC

Essex Lodge, Barnes SW13 0LW

01-878 9566

CAN YOU KEEP A SECRET?

£14,000

If a vacancy exists for you as PA to the director responsible for clients in the insurance, financial and business services sector in one of the world's leading executive search companies. You will be working alongside one of the most successful consultants in the company, whose previous experience includes leading one of their best offices. Your knowledge of the company and your good telephone and your will be working alongside one of the most successful consultants in the company, whose previous experience includes leading one of their best offices. Your knowledge of the company and your good telephone and your will be working alongside one of the most successful consultants in the company, whose previous experience includes leading one of their best offices.

Age 25-30

Skills 80/50 + audio + WP

PLEASE REPLY TO: WEST END OFFICE

01 408 1481

ANGELA MORTIMER

DENTAL SURGERY ASSISTANT

REQUIRED:

For responsible position in private dental practice. Literate, articulate and well presented person.

Please reply in own handwriting with full CV.

Knightsbridge Court, 12

Sloane Street, London

SW1X 0LG.

PERSONNEL SEC £12,000 +

Large International Brokers

challenging role in City Sec.

mid 20's - 30's. Full support

and training. Excellent career

prospect. Please send CV to:

Personnel Sec. Unit, 100, 101

St. James's Place, London SW1A

DRAKE PERSONNEL PA IN TRAVEL £12,000 Enjoy fantastic discounts on travel and hotels. You will be responsible for the director you will be involved with all aspects of the business and will be a successful executive. Call Tracey on 01-734 0911	DRAKE PERSONNEL HEADHUNTER'S ASSISTANT £12,000 Seeking a challenge and an opportunity to use your organisational skills? Look for a career with a company of headhunters. Research, contact, interview, and advise on the recruitment of senior executives. Call Liz Drake on 01-734 0911	DRAKE PERSONNEL INTERIOR DESIGN £14,000 As company assistant at this leading interior design firm, you will be responsible for the design of interiors, buying and management of stock, and the coordination of all aspects of the business. Call Francesa Palmer on 01-851 0666	DRAKE PERSONNEL FASHION INVOLVEMENT £12,000 Assist the managing director in this fast-paced role. Liaise with clients and supervise staff in this demanding, but rewarding, highly administrative position. Great perks including the opportunity to buy their own stock at wholesale prices. Call Sue Carter on 01-851 0666	DRAKE PERSONNEL FOOD FOR THOUGHT £13,500 Confident, A-level and GCSE typing and shorthand. You will be responsible for the catering of all events. Organise, manage and supervise the staff. You will also be responsible for the food and drink for all events. Call Ruth Morgan on 01-846 9787	DRAKE PERSONNEL OFFICE MANAGER £12,000 Run the back-office of a successful company and deal with all aspects of the business. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, ensuring that all aspects of the business are running smoothly. Call Charlotte on 01-846 9787	DRAKE PERSONNEL NOT PROPERTY! £12,000 Use your audio and video skills to create a successful business. You will be responsible for the production and distribution of audio and video material. Call Charlotte on 01-846 9787	DRAKE PERSONNEL SHEER FABRICATION £11,000 Deal with personnel matters including wages and staff induction using your shorthand, typing and WP skills. Call Michael Carroll on 01-846 9787
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EARN c.£14200 pa
 Get your career into focus!
 Become a Temporary Secretary.
 Skills 80/50 + W.P.
 Immediate start and non-contributory paid holidays.
 Call 439 0601 now!
 Carrington House,
 130 Regent Street, W1
 MacBlain NASH Temporary Secretaries

SECRETARIAL OPPORTUNITIES

SENIOR/SEC to Finance Director. SAL £11,000
 Assisting director in Finance Department. SH/audio + lots of typing, will cross train on WP. MB1 4000, would suit person with personality must be able to work on own initiative.

JUNIOR SH/SEC. SAL £10,000
 College leaver required to work for large Insurance Company. Will be assisting SEN/SEC in all duties. Speeds of 90/50 desirable for this post. Bright enthusiastic personality helpful.

SEC/WP OPERATOR. SAL £9,000
 A large progressing company require a flexible well organised person to assist their manager. Sound exp + micro computing skills preferable. Excellent working conditions + lots of promotional prospects.

PA/SECRETARY. SAL £13,000
 Are you interested in working for a small company of Chartered Accountants? Reporting to director good audio/SH skills required, coupled with the ability to cope under pressure.

For details of these and other vacancies, please contact
Blue Arrow Personnel Services on 01-626 9621
 123-127 Cannon St.
 London E.C.4.

WE AIM HIGHER
BLUE ARROW
 PERSONNEL SERVICES

123-127 CANNON STREET,
 LONDON EC4 01-626 9621
 A Member of Blue Arrow PLC.

MOVE INTO TRAINING
 Do you have an in-depth knowledge of word processing and would like to expand your skills in this exciting field? Working for an international promotional company you will use your excellent background assisting the Computer Services Manager organising courses and acting as a support, liaising with suppliers etc.
 Basic shorthand needed. £12,000 + benefits. SW1.

TRUE ORGANISER
 Are you looking for a position where you can involve yourself in many aspects of a business? As a PA to a young executive of a high profile business, much of your day will be involved in organising meetings and dealing with correspondence. Confidence and social poise together with shorthand/typing skills will also be required. This is a very demanding position and you should be able to work well under pressure in a sometimes hectic environment.

ENTERTAINING AT "CLARIDES"
 This international firm of business secretaries is looking for a PA to a young executive of a high profile business. Much of your day will be involved in organising meetings and dealing with correspondence. Confidence and social poise together with shorthand/typing skills will also be required. This is a very demanding position and you should be able to work well under pressure in a sometimes hectic environment.

PART-TIME CAREERS
 We currently have 3 SUPERB vacancies within the Domestic and High-tech world. If you have good shorthand, typing and word processing experience combined with a friendly personality, flexibility and excellent presentation ring the SER HOTLINE for more information now!

STELLA FISHER
 01-836 6644

STELLA FISHER
 01-836 6644

STELLA FISHER
 01-836 6644

STELLA FISHER
 01-836 6644

Partner's Secretary

We are looking for a mature PA/Secretary to provide a full secretarial, and administrative back-up to one of our Partners whose work is primarily based in the Private Client and Charitable areas.

It is important that the successful applicant has the ability to work to tight deadlines whilst still maintaining a high level of accuracy. Use of initiative, common sense and an ability to work under pressure are more important qualities than legal experience. The position will appeal to those who enjoy work of a technical nature.

Farrer & Co is a 30 Partner firm with newly refurbished offices, situated conveniently close to Holborn underground and within a few minutes walk of Covent Garden.

If you are interested in applying please contact Miss Delia Taylor for an application form on Tel: 01-242 2022 or write to her with a full CV to the address below.

FARRER & CO
 66 LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS LONDON WC2H 3LH

Secretary INTERNATIONAL MARKETING

CBS Records, the country's leading record company, is looking for an enthusiastic Secretary to join our busy International Marketing Department.

Working for the International Marketing Director, you will need excellent shorthand and typing skills, together with genuine interest in music. You will have extensive contact with our offices around the world so good communications skills are important. Knowledge of a European language would be an advantage. This is a very demanding position and you should be able to work well under pressure in a sometimes hectic environment.

We are offering a competitive salary, together with generous discounts on records, tapes and concert tickets. If you are interested and feel you could cope in this role, please write to me enclosing a C.V. and details of your current salary.

CBS
 Carole Lowe
 Personnel Assistant,
 CBS Records,
 17/19, Soho Square,
 London W1V 6NE.

INSEAD

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
 seeks

QUALIFIED SECRETARIES
 (preferably English mother tongue)

- To work for Professors of different nationalities.
- Able to work under own initiative, organised and flexible.
- keen to work in a highly academic and multicultural environment.

Location: edge of Fontainebleau forest - 50 Km south of Paris.

Please send your C.V., photo and indicate desired salary to: Personnel Department, INSEAD - bd de Constance, 77305 FONTAINEBLEAU, FRANCE.

ITALIAN DESIGN
 £8-10,500
 The hi-tech, trendy offices of this prestigious design company are the perfect environment for a bright, friendly 2nd jobber or college leaver with excellent presentation. Life is hectic - constant client contact, lots of organising and non-stop social events. Age 18-25. Typing 45+. 01-488 0082

PROSPECTS IN PR
 £10,000
 Move into PR as secretary to the MD of this expanding company. Dealing at top level you will be responsible for your own correspondence. Cope with the pressure of a busy office, yet enjoy the fun and buzz of a young team. Skills 80/50. Age 18-25. 01-496 1092

FABULOUS FASHION
 £11,500
 Your professionalism and immaculate presentation, along with good secretarial skills, will ensure a career move in the fashion world. Office of this key player in the fashion world. Rewards are endless for hard work and commitment. Age 18-25. 01-496 0082

Senior Secretaries

QUEST FOR QUALITY IN W.1.

Excellent remuneration

Do you seek a career with an organisation where high standards and professionalism are well rewarded?

Working closely with the MD of this successful and fast expanding Hotel Group, you will be responsible for the administration of the Head Office and will co-ordinate the activities of support staff. As this is a high profile position, your ability to communicate effectively at all levels will be essential; you will need proven administrative experience, a secretarial background and a commitment to success. Age 25-40.

Please call 01-631 0479.

Seer Selection
 RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Looking for a new Career?
 £8 - 10,000 plus benefits

Are you looking for a change of pace? Something more stimulating, something just a little more challenging? Brilliant openings currently exist for bright, well-qualified College Leavers and/or Second Jobbers within the more dynamic fields of Advertising, PR, Media, Design, Film and Publishing. We boast some of the most prestigious clients around. What you need is lots of initiative, good secretarial skills and great flexibility to turn your hand to anything and everything. To know more call 01-409 1232.

THE WORK SHOP
 Recruitment Consultants
 to the Communications Industry

TITHEGATE ASSOCIATES

GRADUATE SECRETARY
 £12,500 PLUS BENEFITS

ASSISTING THIS EXTREMELY ENERGETIC AND CHARMING PARTNER IN THE MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY DIVISION OF A LEADING INTERNATIONAL FIRM. A GOOD DEAL OF RESEARCH IS INVOLVED WHEN PREPARING THE WAY FOR NUMEROUS CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS AND PROVIDING FULL SUPPORT IN THIS DEMANDING ROLE. IF YOU ARE GRADUATE CALIBRE WITH SUPERB SECRETARIAL SKILLS (100/60) THIS POSITION WILL PROVE CHALLENGING. PLEASE CALL 01-493 0713.

GORDON YATES GROUP
 RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SYNERGY

EXECUTIVE PA
 £14,000
 Dynamic charismatic Director of major international group needs you to run his office near Baker Street. Total involvement in his media managing and personal activities means you'll use your excellent communication and organisational abilities as well as shorthand typing. Age 25-45. Phone: 01-637 8633

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
 £11,500
 Support young consultants on client projects at leading international firm in SW1. Enjoy turning out immaculate reports on your IBM (cross training), using your interpersonal skills while working in lovely surroundings with paid overtime, free lunch and gym. Phone: 01-637 8633

PERSONNEL
 £10,000
 Recruitment has gone mad at up and coming computer company in W1. You'll confidently arrange appointments, write out letters and be keen on computerising the personnel records. Smashing hectic team with superb processes. A levels with shorthand, typing and WP exp. Phone: 01-637 8633

MANPOWER

The place for TOP office temps

Don't miss our great Fashion Event at the London Secretary Show. Tickets are free from Manpower on Stand 159.

Temping's in fashion again

Call 01-486 7865

BERKELEY SQUARE £11,000 NEG

Exciting new club needs smart, sophisticated, well educated secretary. Good shorthand, WP required.

ADVERTISING £10,000 NEG

Excellent opportunity to join young, social Agency in Knightsbridge. You will need good SH, WP skills and a flair for administration.

MORNING AFTERNOONS YOU CHOOSE

Various part-time positions all areas of London call now.

Susan Beck RECRUITMENT
 11 SEA QUAY PLACE, LONDON SW8 5ND

Maine-Tucker

PERSONNEL WHIZZ
 £12,000

This is the most brilliant opportunity for a young Secretary to start a Career in Personnel working as right hand to a young bright progressive Personnel Manager. You will learn the business and as soon as you are ready take on your own Personnel Manager. Inspiring, rewarding, administrative and an awful lot more. There are excellent opportunities to develop the job. Although you need good shorthand (as a stand-by only) and accurate typing much of your day will be spent organising. You must be keen to learn about all areas of personnel including finance - numeracy essential. An ideal job for a person ultimately keen to get experience to go on to be a Personnel Manager. A job in a role you must be under 26 and very positive in character and well presented.

50 Pall Mall St. James's London SW1W 9SL Telephone: 01-925 0546

Contemporary Art Gallery

Assistant

Well versed in Contemporary art? A unique opportunity has arisen for a versatile, socially-confident individual to join a small, distinguished West End Art Gallery. Apart from some secretarial duties (typing needed) you will be based in the Gallery proper and enjoy total involvement in all the Gallery's activities - helping to hang new exhibitions; dealing with private and corporate collectors, museum buyers etc. Immaculate presentation and confident communication skills essential. For details telephone 01-493 5787.

GORDON YATES
 Recruitment Consultants

PA/SECRETARY TO CHIEF
EXECUTIVE
SLOANES SQUARE

The Secretary (Chief Executive) to the Director, Auditors and Volunteer Reserve Association for Greater London is looking for a PA/Secretary.

Candidates should be prepared to take responsibility for the smooth running of a busy office, have good organisational ability, use their initiative and discretion and be able to communicate at all levels.

Good secretarial skills including shorthand and experience of Bank Zebra 633. Also be required as well as strong and pleasant personality and ability to communicate at all levels.

You will be working in pleasant surroundings with car parking and subsidised lunchtime facilities. Starting salary is negotiable and dependent upon experience, with a range of £10,471-£11,022 p.a. rising by annual increments and by exceptional ability to £12,543 inclusive of London weighting and non-pensionable contributions.

Applications with full CV and contact telephone numbers by 13 May 1988.

TAVIA for Greater London, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, SW3 6DT.

PA SEC - £15,000

Working for a delightful Consultant who is setting up a PR business. He is already established in the publishing and financial areas. Must have top level exp plus the social graces and organising ability. French conversation/good shorthand typing and education for this interesting position. Mid 20's-40's.

Telephone Lisa Byzantine
 01 222 5091
NORMA SKEMP
 Personnel Services

TV MARKETING
 £12,000

With over 30% sales Marketing Manager involved in audience & TV research on policy within Europe. A challenging PA post selling your SH & communications skills. Opportunity to be a part of a team that is growing rapidly. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be involved in all aspects of the business.

50 Pall Mall St. James's London SW1W 9SL Telephone: 01-925 0546

Maine-Tucker

PEOPLE...PEOPLE...PEOPLE
RECEPTION

£10,000 + 6 weeks holiday + bonuses

The most important aspect of your job is your people-orientation. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be involved in all aspects of the business.

50 Pall Mall St. James's London SW1W 9SL Telephone: 01-925 0546

PA TO DIRECTOR OF SALES

Dynamic Sales Director of growing Financial Services Company urgently wishes to appoint a professional Secretary to support him by ensuring smooth running of his busy office.

You will need social poise, impeccable skills (110/80) and a mature and positive attitude. In order to co-ordinate diary system, generate quality documents and liaise with clients. The position offers generous benefits, including non-contributory pension, life and private health insurance, and the opportunity to work in a pleasant environment.

For an early interview please phone Call Bob on 07783 88787 or write to us, enclosing CV.

DRUMMOND MOORES PLC,
 CHALFONT HALL, GRAVEL HILL,
 CHALFONT ST. PETER, BUCKS. SL9 0NP.

DOWN ON THE FARM
 c£11,000

Young secretary is wanted by two executive negotiators, selling country estates, farms etc who will periodically be required to copy, shorthand, audio and up to date at the ready to put the wheels on and take to the open road.

01-589 8807
JOYCE GUINNESS
 RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
 21 Temple Lane, Knightsbridge SW7

Bilinguasec

BILINGUAL FRENCH
 £11,000

Senior French Secretary requires a dynamic efficient secretary with strong organisational skills to work for a French based company in the City. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be involved in all aspects of the business.

01-493 6446
 46 Maddox Street, London W1R 9PB.
 Recruitment Consultants

INT'L MARKETING
 £10,000 + BS

There's room for career growth in this progressive international marketing team. The pace is fast but fun as you juggle with client presentations, book venues for seminars, organise sales literature etc. French/German useful. 80/55, WP and brains essential. Age 22+.

If the above job doesn't fit your picture, do call in anyway as we are looking for more bright, young secretaries for PR, marketing, property and TV.

JIGSAW 01-631 8902
 RECRUITMENT OXFORD CIRCUS

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Administrative Secretary 20-30 required by Learned Society to assist in the running of its extensive Scientific Meeting Programme and the co-ordination of its bi-monthly newsletter. Good speeds, accuracy and the skill to work under pressure on own initiative are important qualities for this post, together with the ability to communicate at all levels.

Starting salary c£10,000, 4 weeks 4 days annual holiday, L.V.s and Season Ticket Loan.

Please apply with CV and notes of two referees to: The Executive Secretary, The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 6BU - by 18th May 1988.

Tel 01 434 9944

CARREFOUR
 £15,000

This exciting, international bank is looking for a high-calibre PA to work for the head of its London operations.

A distinguished Frenchman, he oversees all areas of the bank and will expect you to be a local point of communication with all departments, as well as being involved with the day-to-day running of the office and the organisation of all aspects of the business.

A confident and efficient organizer, you should have good French language skills, a knowledge of the financial world and the ability to rise to the challenge of this senior role.

Age 24-30
 Skills: 90/50

City Office
 725 8491
ANGELA MORTIMER

WEST END TV CO.
 c£12,000

Are you interested in the Arts, Entertainment, or Sport? If so, and you are an excellent secretary, SH or WP, you will be working in these exciting yet challenging roles for a well known TV company.

Please call
 01-589 8807
JOYCE GUINNESS
 RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
 21 Temple Lane, Knightsbridge SW7

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Major City based Bank have vacancy for Administrative Assistant to work at senior level. First class shorthand, typing and WP skills essential. IBM experience preferred with minimum 5 years business experience.

To apply send full C.V. to
 Liz Greaves
 Personnel Office
 Bank of New South Wales
 33 Finsbury Square
 EC2A 3EB

RECEPTIONIST/ADMINISTRATOR

Dynamic Marketing Consultancy requires international office in London in order to assist its clients in the UK and abroad. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be involved in all aspects of the business.

01-493 6446
 46 Maddox Street, London W1R 9PB.
 Recruitment Consultants

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

We are a firm of International Management Consultants and we are looking for an enthusiastic and ambitious young assistant.

If you have good secretarial and organisational skills with experience of WP, a pleasant telephone manner, ability in writing to Sue Roberts, Angia House, 25 Dover Street, London W1X 3RA.

SALES ADMINISTRATOR

This is an excellent opportunity to join a successful company in the City. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be involved in all aspects of the business.

01-493 6446
 46 Maddox Street, London W1R 9PB.
 Recruitment Consultants

PA/SECRETARY
 £14,000 + benefits

Are you a mature, efficient, well educated, and well presented woman? If so, you will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be involved in all aspects of the business.

01-493 6446
 46 Maddox Street, London W1R 9PB.
 Recruitment Consultants

PA/EXECUTIVE
 £11,000 + benefits

Good shorthand and WP skills needed to assist one of the team leaders in corporate finance department. An interest in finance and the City will help you to become an integral part of this hectic office. Age 24+.

01-283 0111
 21 Temple Lane, Knightsbridge SW7

PRODUCT MANAGER/PA

Enthusiastic self-starter needed for highly responsible & challenging position with small but trading co. Italian commercial experience. W.P. French & D.P. an advantage. Salary neg £12,000 + C.V. neg

01-221 8223
 Tel: 01-221 8223

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE BILINGUAL PA
 JAPANESE/ENGLISH

For UK/Europe Operations HQ of International Company (London) c£11,500 + benefits

Tel: 0462 60335

PA/SECRETARY
 £14,000 + benefits

Are you a mature, efficient, well educated, and well presented woman? If so, you will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be involved in all aspects of the business.

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01-283 0111
 21 Temple Lane, Knightsbridge SW7

COULD YOU IMPROVE DIRECTOR-LEVEL EFFECTIVENESS?

As PA to the Managing Director-Chairman of this international Market Research company, you will have ample opportunity to prove your potential. In your mid-20's and educated to 'A' level, you will tackle a challenging and expanding role with enthusiasm. A flair for communicating will assist you in organizing worldwide conferences, producing financial

reports (numeracy is important), as well as handling personal work. Confidentiality is vital, as you will also maintain personnel records. Shorthand, WP and audio-proficient, your adaptability will win you extra responsibility along with £14,000. Non-smoker. Telephone 01-499 0092; 173 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PB.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR THE RIGHT PEOPLE

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

LATE NIGHT BONUS
We realise when you are looking for a career move it is difficult to find time during the day to see us, so we are staying open to 8pm on Tuesday 19th April and invite you for a friendly constructive discussion. We have many interesting junior and senior vacancies in a variety of companies ranging from Films to Fuel and are always looking for people to join our professional team.
Call on today on 235 8427, 4 Port St, London SW1.
CALL US TODAY

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

SPRING INTO ACTION BIG BANG BONUS £12,000 ++
Exciting opportunity to join a senior management team of an international Bank as their much appreciated PA. Plenty of scope for involvement and promotion. 30/30 skills - WP are awarded in addition to enthusiasm and a sense of humour. Normal banking hours.
Ring Sally Owens on 01-235 8427
4 Port Street, London SW1.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES

JUST £15,000
Our client, a member of the European Parliament, is looking for a private secretary to handle all parliamentary and personal matters. Duties will range from handling flow of information between London, New York and the Bahamas; researching and replying to constituents' enquiries and liaising with brokers, banks and advisors.
Age 30 - 40 Speeds 100/70
01-629 9323

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES

MARKETING £13,500
Our client an international marketing group operates in more than 60 countries and handles everything from cars and coffee to wines and spirits. We are looking for a motivated secretary who will prioritise, liaise with international counterparts, maintain an extensive marketing data base and co-ordinate social arrangements including Wimbledon and Ascot.
Age 25 - 35 Skills 100/80
01-629 9323

Languages £12,000

A high-level PA with fluency in both French and Spanish is needed to join the senior director of this centrally based international company. Working very much as her assistant, you will be organising a busy schedule and liaising extensively with overseas offices. Age: mid-20's. Skills 100/80 and WP.

CORPORATE P.R. to £12,000

Major International Company needs an admin. assistant/secretary to assist the Manager of International Communications. You'll be liaising with senior executives worldwide, co-ordinating the production of promotional material, running a slide and video library. You'll need experience of working for a large company (preferably in a publicity/P.R. dept) excellent typing/WP and writing skills.
To discuss these - and other current vacancies, please call us on 01-629-7282.

GRADUATE APPOINTMENTS

7 PRINCES STREET, W.1. 01-629 7282

Media Career

£8,500
Exciting career opening with this world-famous Television company for a young, bright College Leaver. Working alongside their charming Head of Publishing - your role will be busy and varied - as well as providing full secretarial back-up; organising busy schedules, meetings, travel etc, you will help out on the editorial side. Solid skills (70/50) are requested. The ability to prioritise with tact and handle enquiries courteously essential. Excellent promotional prospects. Please telephone 01-493 5787 for details.

GORDON-YATES
Recruitment Consultants

TITHEGATE ASSOCIATES

GORDON-YATES GROUP
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

TAKE CONTROL £13,000 NEGOTIABLE

A SET-UP SITUATION ASSISTING THIS YOUNG AND EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEUR. YOU WILL ORGANISE THE DECORATING/FURNISHING OF THE OFFICE, PURCHASE ALL EQUIPMENT AND STATIONERY AND INITIATE BASIC ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS. YOUR ABILITY TO ACT IN ISOLATION IS ESSENTIAL AS ARE COMPETENT SECRETARIAL SKILLS (SHORTHAND USEFUL) AND AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE FINANCE WORLD. CALL 01-493 0713.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

We are firm of International Management Consultants and we are looking for an enthusiastic and ambitious young assistant. If you have good secretarial and organisational skills with experience of WP, a pleasant telephone manner, excellent presentation, and a high level of initiative, apply in writing to: Sue Roberts, Aspen House, 25 Dover Street, London W1X 3RA.

JUNIOR SECRETARY REQUIRED

Temporary or permanent for a civilised establishment in SW1. Salary £7,500 + Meals, 5 days/week.
Tel: 01-830 4843

MEDICAL SECRETARY

Full-time secretary with considerable experience of the NHS and private sector registered for Consultant. Surgeon's busy private practice in Manchester, CV and two references essential.
Reply to BOX 163

MARKETING PA £13,000

Your excellent communication skills will be fully utilized when you join this direct marketing company where you will assist the joint MD's, ensure their day runs smoothly, keep tabs while they travel the world, liaise with their clients and maintain the marketing correspondence. If you have excellent shorthand and typing, are a fast learner who truly is a people person then call Gena Nader on 01-493 8104

WEST END BANKING £14,000 package

The top US investment bank seeks a confident PA/Secretary to work for two senior executives. Your hours will be at a very fast pace and will rely on your initiative and totally separate these. 80/50 skills and WP experience required. We have an excellent selection of similar positions offering good prospects so please call us now.
Please telephone 01-248 3744
Easy/late appointments arranged

Elizabeth Hunt

Recruitment Consultants
2 Bow Lane London EC4

PACE-SETTER £9,500 in SW1

Young secretary is promised an exciting time taking part in organising premier sports events world wide. Will need reasonable s/h typing, in WP and some numeracy also the ability to handle administration. Will meet top sports personalities at in house lunches and if interested will have opportunity to prepare notes.
01-589 8807
JOYCE GUINNESS
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
21 Brompton Avenue, Knightsbridge SW3

FRONT-RUNNER £12,000ish

Simply superb job for a PA 20's - 30's in SW1 with the front line sports personality. Organising sports events and handling top people. He needs good s/h typing and knowledge of WP, but most importantly someone who has flair for organisation, common sense, discretion and social poise.
01-589 8807
JOYCE GUINNESS
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
21 Brompton Avenue, Knightsbridge SW3

EXPERIENCED AND RELIABLE AUDIO SECRETARY REQUIRED £11,000 pa

Capable of working on own initiative and operating small switchboard.
John Broadfield & Company
Surveyors and Valuers,
New Bond Street House,
1/5 New Bond Street,
London W1Y 9PE.
01-293 2981
(No Agencies)

CAROLINE KING

LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE £15,000 neg.
If you are looking for a dynamic, expanding company and a challenging role, this position will be ideal. As business develops the MD will delegate more and more and expect you to provide a first-rate administrative service. You will need to be confident and totally on the ball. Good PA skills.
OPEN UNTIL 7 PM EVERY WEDNESDAY
01-499 8070
87 New Bond Street London W.1.

THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ADVERTISING ORGANISER £12,000

As a PA to the personal director of this famous named agency you will liaise with everyone from MD to junior secretaries. Show visitors around the many floors, entertain at the company's wine bar and organise social events for the following staff. Ideally aged 22/25 with very short, good typing and good interpersonal skills will secure you a first-rate career.
Phone Sally Owens on 01-235 8427 Box 163.

01-486 6951

THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

FASHION, HOTELS, TRAVEL £10,000

This holding company is involved in Hotels and Travel and the possibility of international travel is a bonus. The agency of this post is varied and progressive with exciting incentives. If you are well educated, have initiative and have 50+ wpm, please call Lynn Lott on 486 6951.

01-486 6951

MARKETING PA £13,000

Our client is a leading supplier of news and information and look upon their staff as their most important asset. Career opportunities are excellent and job involvement and development is encouraged. The Marketing Director needs senior support and assistance to help arrange conferences, compile reports and arrange frequent travel schedules. Good shorthand, typing and wp skills needed.

OSBORNE - RICHARDSON
Senior, Friendly & Very Professional
10 NEW BOND STREET LONDON W.1
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

WATCH THIS POSTER! TO £11,000

Lots of client liaison, help with meetings and presentations where your personality will pay it's part. Our Client handles Outdoor Advertising so it's fast moving from W1 offices. S/H skills.

A START IN PUBLISHING £8,800 - £10,000

College Leaver Secs and 2nd Jobbers - break into the World of Publishing. Super opening now with leading Book Publishers and in Magazines offering scope and instant involvement - and guaranteed job satisfaction.

ARCHITECTS PA/SEC £12,000

Award winning Architects and Designers with creative and innovative projects coming to fruition need PA/Sec 23+ with audio for busy Partner. Organise meetings, travel etc.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU

Ring your nearest office
Fleet Street 353 7696 or Regent Street 499 1240

The Medical College of Saint Bartholomew's Hospital

University of London

ACADEMIC SECRETARY

£7778 - 10,414 inclusive

We wish to appoint a mature, well organised person to act as Academic Secretary to Professor Anthony Clare, Professor of Psychological Medicine. You will need to possess excellent secretarial skills and have some experience of word processing. You should enjoy using your initiative and have an ability to work under pressure when necessary. Applications in the form of a full CV with names and addresses of 2 referees to:

The Personnel Officer
The Medical College of St. Bartholomew's Hospital
West Smithfield
London EC1A 7BE
Closing date: 13th May 1988.

SECRETARY/PA FULHAM

£9,000 - £12,000 A.A.E.
Management Software Ltd. require Secretary/PA to work for Directors. Candidate must have solid secretarial skills and wordprocessing ability. Sales experience desirable. Excellent opportunity for involvement and increasing responsibility in small, institutionally financed company.

Contact Stephen Lloyd on 01 731 7200

RECEPTIONIST/TYPIST

Required by small friendly team shortly to be moving to smart new offices in the Knightsbridge area. 2nd jobber preferred. A lively competent and helpful nature a must.
Salary £8,000
Contact Cathie Astley on:
01 831 6721

TIP TOP RECEPTIONIST £12,000

City PR/Advertising Co require person professional to look after VIP visitors. Previous experience, beautiful speech and presentation + willingness to take on added responsibilities essential.
Call 371 6777
Middleton Jeffers
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

ARTISTES PROTECTION £12,000 + bonus

PA with French and Spanish. The Director General of the professional body protecting the interests of artists in Opera, Music, Drama, Pop etc needs a graduate level 20's with good formal skills 80/50 and who has a keen interest in the arts. Will be involved in a very special arena into a fascinating world.
01-589 8807
JOYCE GUINNESS
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
21 Brompton Avenue, Knightsbridge SW3

NEWS AND MEDIA KNIGHTSBRIDGE £10,000

Young secretary should join this highly successful advertising group and enjoy access to a very varied and exciting career. The group will involve super typing and wp experience and a full literary which guarantees fun and a never dull day.
01-589 8807
JOYCE GUINNESS
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
21 Brompton Avenue, Knightsbridge SW3

SUPERTRAVEL

SPECIALIST TOUR OPERATOR SECRETARY/ASSISTANT. FLUENT FRENCH
Required for General Manager to work on both St. Germain and Paris. Good multi typing, team spirit, initiative and a keen interest in travel. Will be involved in a very special arena into a fascinating world.
01-589 8807
JOYCE GUINNESS
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
21 Brompton Avenue, Knightsbridge SW3

PA/SEC £12,000

Assisting the General Manager of this prestigious Knightsbridge Media Consultancy on its various Sports accounts, will call for lots of initiative. Your good judgement of character will help you recruit for the company and supervise the reception area. If you like variety and have good shorthand and typing call Caroline.
01-493 8104
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CAROLINE KING

GET OUT OF THE OFFICE £9,800
Unusual opportunity to join a major international organisation specialising in trade shows. You'll learn all about the exciting world of satellite and cable TV exhibitions. You'll be fully involved in all arrangements leading up to events as well as being there on the day to ensure everything runs smoothly. Copy typing needed.
OPEN UNTIL 7 PM EVERY WEDNESDAY
01-499 8070
87 New Bond Street London W.1.

THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

FASHION, HOTELS, TRAVEL £10,000

This holding company is involved in Hotels and Travel and the possibility of international travel is a bonus. The agency of this post is varied and progressive with exciting incentives. If you are well educated, have initiative and have 50+ wpm, please call Lynn Lott on 486 6951.

01-486 6951

THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA IN RESEARCH £13,000 PLUS MORTGAGE

This is no ordinary secretarial position. As PA to a senior executive you will be involved in the preparation of reports and research material on computer. You will work closely with the research team helping your ideas into the field. With good salary/WP incentives.
Please Angela Shann on 486 6951

01-486 6951

ANTHONY COOK BUREAU

Recruitment Consultants

IF YOU CAN IMPRESS US...

We'll impress you - with an offer you can't refuse. Problem: We need top-class temporary and permanent secretaries with excellent secretarial skills, but the demand exceeds supply. Solution: We will sponsor selected applicants to be properly trained in one of the leading WP programs, entirely at our own expense. This is not the usual half-hearted offering, but the most intensive, 3-day individual course arranged for leading companies all over the country by our sister company, Anthony Cook Associates. We are also very interested to hear from WP secretaries who are already trained in DISPLAYWRITE 3, DISPLAYWRITE, MICROSOFT WORD, or WANG, as we have IMMEDIATE TEMPORARY VACANCIES. For further details, please call Kevin Mangan on 01-262 3404/3223. Graham House, 24 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2BN.

Telephone 01-262 3404

EDITORIAL SECRETARY £11,000

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Prestigious Merchant Bank offers an excellent opportunity to a 23-30yr old well-presented and hardworking secretary to help a small friendly team of executives. Good typing and accurate shorthand at 80wpm essential. WP cross-training provided. Excellent benefits.

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SNookER

Champion's record makes mockery of unfounded criticism

By Steve Acton

Sieve Davis, the most complete player of the modern age, has been unfairly labelled a "lucky player" by some low-professionalism and snooker observers, according to Terry Griffiths.

Immediately after his 18-11 defeat in the Embassy world championship final on Monday night, which gave Davis his fifth world title in eight seasons, Griffiths eloquently launched into an attack on the champion's detractors.

It seems hardly credible that Davis, aged 30, has anything left to prove. Apart from his five world crowns, he has won six United Kingdom championships, eight other ranking tournaments, 16 non-ranking tournaments and two English championships. This season he has collected prize-money of £425,612, including Embassy's £95,000 winner's cheque.

However, Griffiths, his Matchroom stablemate, said: "I don't believe all this business about who has most of the running (the luck) and certainly Steve is not a lucky player. I don't think luck has anything to do with it and I don't like it when people go on about all the luck Steve is supposed to have."

"But I have heard some TV commentators talking about it

and other players, too, and it annoys me when people try to take away from a fellow like him all that he has achieved and just put it down to luck. Players who talk about running are either talking in bitterness after defeats or they just don't know what they are talking about. It's nonsense."

Davis, after recovering from the surprise that the subject had been raised in his hour of triumph, said: "Who knows what people say behind your back and who cares? If other people say I'm lucky, then terrific. As a famous golfer once said, 'The harder I practice, the luckier I seem to get'. Terry has been a world champion and when you have been that, you tend to stop talking about whether people are lucky or unlucky, because you know that really it is all down to character."

Davis is a peculiarly modest man despite all his achievements. He is now only one world title behind Ray Reardon's modern-day record of six but, despite his worldwide fame, he refuses to acknowledge that he has become one of snooker's legends.

"It's difficult to know what a legend is," Davis said. "I'm only a single world champion behind Ray and he is

definitely one, but I find it easier to think about him in such terms than myself. I'm a legend in my own lifetime, in my own break."

"The game is changing all the time. The top players are not held in such awe as they once were because there are so many great players now and the public choose their own favourites."

"As far as they are concerned, I'll just be a bit of a legend in the 1980s. It's not like the days of Joe Davis. These days people say, 'You're maybe a bit of a legend but I still prefer Jimmy White'."

While Davis contemplates his non-legendary future, his manager, Barry Hearn, whose players dominated the latter stages at The Crucible, must prepare another of them, Cliff Thorburn, for a much more severe ordeal.

Thorburn, from Canada, the 1980 world champion, failed a drugs test at the British Open in February and will answer to a disciplinary hearing at a date to be set after May 5, when he could be banned for up to six ranking tournaments and heavily fined.

Hearn said: "The date will be decided soon but I can make little comment about the matter."



Cup and a kiss: for blissful recipient, girlfriend Judy Greig

RACING

Unfuwain strengthens Hern Derby dominance

By Michael Seely, Racing Correspondent

Dick Hern's dominance over this year's Derby betting continued yesterday when Unfuwain stormed home eight lengths clear of Kalkate in the Dalham Chester Vase in ground made soft by the overnight rain.

Ladbrokes have shortened Unfuwain's price to 5-2 and have Chamer and Emmonson as their second and third favourites, at 8-1 and 10-1 respectively, as yesterday's victorious pair attempt to repeat their 1979 and 80 triumphs with Troy and Hembit in the blue riband of the turf.

Hern watched the race on satellite television at the Aston Upthorpe Stud in Berkshire and said afterwards: "I couldn't be more delighted. Unfuwain took a little time to pass the leader, but he then went right away. I must emphasize that he didn't like the ground. He's a much better horse on faster going."

In giving Hern his fifth victory in yesterday's classic trial, Unfuwain will now be attempting to follow in the footsteps of Hembit and Chamer, who went on from winning the Chester Vase to victories at Epsom in the successive seasons 1980 to 81.

"I thought he'd learnt a lot from his experience in the Warren Stakes," Hern continued. "He handled the track and the bends. And he's already shown that he can gallop down the hill at Epsom. All we need now is luck in running." This last remark represented an unusual note of confidence from the normally conservative major.

The strongly fancied Kalkate was plainly ill at ease in the mud and was struggling to hold his position over three furlongs from home. The second favourite only passed Vayrus to take second place close home.

Afterwards, Pat Eddery, the runner-up's jockey, struck the only discordant note when he said: "Kalkate couldn't handle the ground at all. Unfuwain did it well and he's a good horse. But we've got to have reservations

about Epsom where he'll have to handle the bends at speed. You need a speed horse for the Derby."

Carson is now in an enviable position as he contemplates his bid for the Derby. Look at the Aga Khan's Sandown winner, Alwathush and Carroll House. Galitzin, Clive Brittain's winner of Sandown's *Guardsman* Classic trial, has not been declared.

Zelphi has not been declared for Sunday's *Tessa* at Pontefract as Jeremy Tree has coughing at Betchworth. But yesterday Andre Fabre said that French Stakes would be in the line-up. "We had a certain favourite, Blushing King," he worked well this morning," said the trainer. "It's a big step up in class to run in a group one, but my three-year-olds are better than I'd thought. So he's entitled to take his chance."

Hern's and Carson's triumphant march forward was momentarily halted when Muffit could only finish a well beaten fourth behind Lazzar in the *Guardsman* Stakes. Lazzar, who is not entered in the Derby, sent Saturday's 2,000 Guineas winning team of Michael Stoute and Walter Swinburn. Afterwards, Robert Acton, Sheikh Mohammed's stud-man, said: "We had a lot of entries in the Derby, but sadly we don't look like having a runner."

After The Yomper had finished seventh behind Mill Plantation in the Great Cheshire Handicap Stakes, Ian Adair, the owner of the favourite, reported Richard Stoe to the Jockey Club. The local stewards held an inquiry and have referred the matter to Portman Square after viewing the video recording of the race and having interviewed the owner, jockey and trainer. Richard Stoe, the rider of Old Roy, the betting intelligence officer, and the Handicapper.

Greedy remained silent over the deal yesterday, but it has been suggested that Hamdan Al-Maktoum has shown considerable interest in the property. It is thought that the yearling will be linked up with Stanley House where John Gosden will be installed as a trainer later this year.

Arabs linked with sale of Fitzroy House

Bill Greedy, the racehorse owner and property developer, is on the verge of selling his recently acquired Fitzroy House Stables in Newmarket (Christophers, Gouding writes). Greedy bought Fitzroy House, where Ray Hinchinson trains two months ago from a New Zealand company.

Greedy remained silent over the deal yesterday, but it has been suggested that Hamdan Al-Maktoum has shown considerable interest in the property. It is thought that the yearling will be linked up with Stanley House where John Gosden will be installed as a trainer later this year.

Redcar

Going good
2.15 (10) 1. MANNING (A. Mearns, 8-1) 2. Time To Home (A. Cunniff, 4-1) 3. Ray Rodeo (A. Mearns, 4-1) 4. ALSO RAN: 7. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 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Tom Sharpe to steal a march again I Got Stung can collect

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Following that runaway win at Newmarket last Thursday, Tom Sharpe can give his young first-season trainee John Wharton further cause for celebration by winning today's Ladbroke Cup.

It is not often that you see flat races won by the wide margin of 10 lengths. Yet that was precisely the distance by which Tom Sharpe beat the Queens' Prize winner Sun Street at Newmarket.

And rather like the day when he won the Cesarewitch there four years ago he was not stopping at the end either. So today's longer distance will not bother him.

Therefore, on only 6th bet-ter terms it is hard to envision Sun Street reversing the placings.

Sir Crusty, who finished in front of Tom Sharpe at Newbury last month, is obviously not without a good chance. However, that was Tom Sharpe's first race of the season and Newmarket clearly showed that he had benefited from it.

As Pearl Run was beaten a short head in the race two years ago when carrying only 7st 12lb, and could manage only eighth place last year under 8st 9lb, it is hard to envisage him winning now with 9st 10lb.

But I'm sure afraid of another Cesarewitch winner Private Audition, who did well to beat Failing, Shimshek and Fast Glories at Newmarket last month.

With the 1,000 Guineas second Dabaweyan in his care, Newmarket trainer Michael Stoute is already sitting pretty.



Reg Akhurst: right slot for ex-Irish Fast Finder

as far as the Oaks is concerned. If Melodist happens to win the Cheshire Oaks this afternoon, as she may, his confidence will be reinforced.

Being by The Minstrel and out of a mare by Graustark, Melodist sports a pedigree

which suggests that she should leave past form well behind as soon as she tackles a distance in keeping with her pedigree. Now is the moment.

Talking of Dabaweyan, her fine run in the 1,000 last Thursday highlights the fact that she is a genuine contender for the Saffron Maiden Fillies Stakes. They were first and second in the Geoffrey Barling Stakes at Newmarket three weeks ago.

At Salisbury, Reg Akhurst seems to have found the right slot for his Irish four-year-old Fast Finder in the shape of the Ushers Trophy.

Having run him twice over six furlongs and once over a mile and a quarter and got him to win, he has done the bargain, he is now settled on which way the distance over which he scored at the Curragh last June.

Slice Supreme, who is trained nearby by David Elsworth, is a big local tip to win the Salisbury Stakes.

Cheltenham's evening meeting is a glorified point-to-point with the races restricted to hunter chasers.

There will be no better spectacle than the Audi Champion Hunters' Chase for which such accomplished performers as the Foxhunters winner Certain Light, Golden Casino, I Got Stung and the recent course and distance winner Three Counties have been declared.

Following that easy win at Ascot three weeks ago, I am confident that I Got Stung can triumph again, and he is my nap.

Blinkered first time
CHESTER: 3.20 Trolan Way, 4.50 Master Palacehouse. SALISBURY: 4.00 Three Castles.

The hunters take the stage at Cheltenham this evening when Certain Light and Three Counties, first and second in the Foxhunters at the Festival, will be meeting again in the Audi Champion Hunters' Chase.

Certain Light may have difficulty in confirming that form and the presence of I GOT STUNG, a comfortable winner at Ascot, complicates the issue and he may beat them both.

The Audi Grand Prix de Chasse looks to be between Allen Lad, Wadsworth Stakes, and Master Skip as the three hunter chasers who head the list look to be at a weight disadvantage.

MADELIST SUSIE, unbeaten in five point-to-points, is untried over the stiffer fences.

Cheltenham preview by Brian Beel

but would probably beat Allen Lad over a point-to-point course and may do so here.

To the uninitiated the form figures of KARANSU offer little encouragement but point-to-point followers who saw him win the Lead Rover qualifier at the PPOA meeting at Asborne, knew that he had won the Queens' Prize winner Sun Street at Newmarket.

Monday's Towcester winner, five lengths behind him.

He still makes mistakes but could have no better rider than John Llewellyn to give him the confidence he needs over the jumps. His main threat comes from Touch Of Fun, who ran well here behind Three Counties last time out, and I believe he will be up to this task in the Pimper Champagne (5.50).

SWEET RASCAL may be a safer bet than Krystle Saint in the opener. Since running second in a hunter chase at Worcester, Sweet Rascal has won two point-to-points.

If BORDER BURG has recovered from his exertions in the National he should win the four-mile race as Paddy's Peril is likely to carry over weight with his regular rider John Deutsch in the saddle.

Although the presence of Corked will not make the Overbury an easy race for him, MATCHPLAY should send favourite backers home happy.

SELECTIONS: 5.15 Sweet Rascal, 5.50 Karansu (nap), 6.25 I Got Stung, 7.00 Mademist Susie, 7.35 Border Burg, 8.10 Matchplay.

CHESTER

By Mandarin

2.15 Sinclair Boy, 2.45 Blakes Son, 3.20 Tom Sharpe, 4.20 Thunderflash, 4.50 Defence Policy.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Young Staver, 2.45 Blakes Son, 3.20 Sun Street, 4.20 MELODIST (nap), 4.50 Master Palacehouse.

By Michael Seely

3.20 PEARL RUN (cap), 3.50 Melodist.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.20 THUNDERFLASH.

Going: soft

Draw: low numbers best in sprints

2.15 RED DRAGON MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O colts & geldings: £2,483; 5f) (8 runners)

101 (4) 1-4 DANIELLE 15 (9) (A. K. Adams) B 11-9-0 J. Williams 50

102 (5) 1-4 DANIELLE 15 (9) (A. K. Adams) B 11-9-0 J. Williams 50

103 (6) 1-4 DANIELLE 15 (9) (A. K. Adams) B 11-9-0 J. Williams 50

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165 (68) 1-4 DANIELLE 15 (9) (A. K. Adams) B 11-9-0 J. Williams 50

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3.50 CHESTER OAKS (Listed race: 3-Y-O fillies: £15,114; 1m 4f 65yds) (9 runners)

403 (5) 1-4 DANIELLE 15 (9) (A. K. Adams) B 11-9-0 J. Williams 50

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450 (52) 1-4 DANIELLE 15 (9) (A. K. Adams) B 11-9-0 J. Williams 50

Golfing prize of celebrity status

The Times today presents the opportunity for four of our readers to play in the Wang Four Stars national pro-celebrity golf tournament at Moor Park next month.

The tournament features the four stars - Jimmy Taylor, Henry Cooper, Terry Wogan and Ronnie Corbett - as well as some of the leading professionals from the European circuit, among them Ian Woosnam, Sam Torrance and Mark McNulty, and Lee Trevino, from the United States.

Other celebrity amateur golfers who are scheduled to play include Sean Connery, Arthur



Ashe, Russ Abbott, Glen Campbell and Telly Savalas. They are all determined not only to play well and entertainingly but also to raise money for charity; £150,000 is their target.

The Times has reserved a place on each day of the tournament for one of the four winners of this competition. One will play alongside a leading professional on June 9, another on June 10, another on June 11, and another on the final day, June 12.

We will also provide accommodation for each of them, with a guest, on the night before they play. They will all receive guest badges and passes to allow them fully to enjoy their day at the Wang Four Stars tournament - and they will receive a mounted photograph of their team as a permanent souvenir.

To enter, study the questions below, then write your answers on the entry form and complete it with your name, address and handicap. The organizers impose a handicap limit of 18 for men players and 30 for women players. Post your entry form to: Wang Four Stars golf competition, Sports Department, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN.

The winners will be the senders of the first four correct entries opened from all those received by the closing date. All entries must arrive by Friday, May 13.

THE QUESTIONS

- Who won the Four Stars tournament in 1987?
- Who was the last British golfer to win the US Open?
- Mark McNulty won the Four Stars tournament last year. He also won the next week - name that tournament.
- Who was the last American golfer to win the (British) Open?
- Name Ian Woosnam's part in World Cup last November?

ENTRY FORM	
NAME	_____
ADDRESS	_____
TELEPHONE	_____
HANDICAP	_____
GOLF CLUB	_____
ANSWERS	
1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____
CONDITIONS OF ENTRY	
Employees (and their relatives) of Times Newspapers Ltd are not eligible for entry. The Sports Editor's decision is final. No correspondence can be entered into.	

STUDENT SPORT

Henderson extends his talents into the relay

By Yuri Matishchen

Crystal Palace proved to be a happy hunting ground for Loughborough students this Bank holiday as they won the men's and women's British universities and UAU athletics team championships. But Loughborough certainly did not have things all their own way.

Jamie Henderson, the European junior sprint champion, won the 100 metres and 200 metres for Edinburgh in a splendid confrontation with the previous holder, Andrew Carr, of Loughborough, who in 1987 finished sixth in the 200 metres final of the World Student Games and was fourth in the AAA championships.

Henderson, competing for an Olympic sprint place, won the 100 with ease in 10.87, with Carr second. The 200 resulted in a second duel between the two, with Carr holding on to the lead only to give in to the powerfully built Henderson in the last 60 metres.

The Scot recorded 21.46 in blistering conditions. It was Henderson again who, running the third leg of the 4x100 relay with a split time of 47.9, burst the Loughborough bubble

CRICKET: HAMPSHIRE OPENERS PUT ON UNBEATEN STAND OF 158 TO STROLL PAST GLAMORGAN

Smith and Terry stand firm

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

SOUTHAMPTON (Hampshire won the toss): Hampshire (2pts) beat Glamorgan by 10 wickets.

The embarrassing ease with which Hampshire disposed of Glamorgan suggests a highly effective one-day team trouncing an incompetent one. Too much, however, ought not to be read into it. Hampshire simply enjoyed a day free of the quirk which plagues them perennially. Chris Smith and Paul Terry twisting the knife mercilessly into Glamorgan backs with an unbroken opening stand of 158.

Hampshire's season has, typically, begun in eccentric fashion. They lost their first championship match in two days and won their second in three; they have lost both Sunday league games yet scored two comfortable victories in the Benson and Hedges. Maybe someday soon they will win one of the knock-out competitions and shake off the label which they carry so reluctantly, but I am certainly not going to blight their chances by using this match as evidence that they are ready.

At the end of last week, Glamorgan scored 343 for eight in a four-day game against Somerset. They were rapidly made aware that this was to be a very different proposition. Without Morris, their captain and most adhesive batsmen, they lost the toss and then lost their top four inside 19 overs. It was going to be a long road back from there.

The pitch, uneven of pace and occasionally of bounce, made its contribution, but Glamorgan were also guilty of

some indiscipline strokes. Hopkins and Maynard were both out driving, an indiscreet risk with the ball not coming on to the bat. Jeffries, who has been firing away at Butcher's leg stump, eventually hit it and Ontong, promoted up the order, could only jab a rising ball from the improved Andrew to guily.

All was not lost. Shastri and Holmes, after all, both made centuries against Somerset and now they dropped roots determinedly. In 15 overs they added 32 before Holmes edged Connor fast and low to slip, where Chris Smith showed the merit of staying down a shade longer than certain England slip fielders this winter.

Shastri bats in only two gears - neutral and overdrive. He had made only 22 from 26 overs when he drove Cowley for two sixes. Cowley, hitherto, had bowled nine overs for 12 and even this onslaught should not detract from it. Shastri, upright and elegant, reached his half-century in 100 balls and then persisted trying to improve a pitiful 50-over total of 135.

The Hampshire bowlers, naturally anxious to prove they can exist without Butcher, all performed capably and the job was completed by a pair of openers who have both aspired to the highest levels before, I fancy, settling for excellence at the county game. Their stand grew in stature the longer it went on, but Terry, in particular, was grateful to come through an encouragingly hostile new ball spell from Thomas.

It is quite something that

Thomas is still playing in Wales, such was the mutual disenchantment between player and club last autumn. Thomas earned a suspension for defying county advice over an injury. He made noises about leaving, but Glamorgan insisted he should stay. Now, with a shorter run-up and a plainly positive attitude, he is bowling with more rhythm and control and the hapless Terry played and missed five times in two remarkable overs.

Five overs from Thomas cost only 10 runs. One over from the unfortunate Watkins cost 16, Terry demonstrating his relief with four fours. The pressure was off after that and Terry, missed at slip when 30, progressed to his first Gold Award with increasing conviction. Smith contented himself with an occasional stroke of great power.

GLAMORGAN

A R Butcher b Jeffries	14
J A Hopkins b Jeffries	6
R P Ontong c Terry b Andrew	6
N P Maynard c Connor b Andrew	5
R J Shastri b Terry	59
C J Smith c Connor	13
A Conley c C L Smith b Jeffries	13
J G Thomas c Terry b James	14
C P Morgan b James	4
S L Watkin not out	4
S R Barwick not out	4
Extras (b 1, lb 4, w 2, nb 4)	11
Total (10 wickets, 55 overs)	157

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-24, 3-24, 4-38, 5-70, 6-104, 7-135, 8-135, 9-135.

BOWLING: Connor 11-0-25-2, James 11-0-36-2, Andrew 11-0-25-2, James 11-0-36-2, Cowley 11-0-31-0.

GLAMORGAN

V P Terry not out	80
C L Smith not out	9
Extras (b 0, lb 0, w 0)	0
Total (no wickets, 47 overs)	158

BOWLING: Thomas 9-0-25-0, Barwick 10-0-16-2, Watkins 2-0-16-1, Shastri 8-0-25-0, Ontong 5-0-20-0, Holmes 3-0-11-0, Maynard 2-0-10-0.

Umpires: B Dudson and M J Kitchen.



Imran: helped Sussex recover from a poor start against Middlesex at Lord's (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Spectacular end to bold Imran knock

By David Chappell

LORD'S (Middlesex won the toss): Middlesex need 121 runs to beat Sussex with nine wickets and 33 overs remaining.

A Test series in the West Indies and a Benson and Hedges Cup match on a showery day in north-west London must have seemed a world apart to Imran Khan as he made his first full-scale appearance of the English season yesterday. But just as the Pakistan captain had inspired his country in the Caribbean, his commanding presence means that Middlesex cannot be certain of victory today when the match resumes.

When Imran came to the wicket with Sussex 30 for two after 12 overs he must have thought he was back on the other side of the Atlantic. Middlesex's two West Indian batsmen, fast bowler, Cowans and Williams, had already accounted for Green and Parker and were keeping a tight rein on the runs.

With the promising Lenham playing solidly at the other end, Imran took his time before launching the necessary acceleration required to set Middlesex a reasonable target. He took over half an hour to get off the mark but then, with a display of controlled hitting, guided Sussex to an eventual total of 183, hitting seven fours in an innings of 71, spanning

two and a half hours.

Another reminder of life in the West Indies for Imran was provided by Williams, who extracted plenty of lift from the pitch and struck Imran a nasty blow on the visor shortly after he had passed 50. Imran's demise came in an extraordinary finish to the innings as Fraser achieved on the second half-century by a Middlesex player in the Benson and Hedges competition after Allan Jones.

SUSSEX

A M Green c Downton b Cowans	7
N J Lenham b Hughes	35
P W Parfitt c Downton b Williams	59
Imran Khan b Fraser	71
T J Gould b Williams	7
M J Slater not out	1
A P Wells c Cowans b Embury	8
S J S Kimber c Williams b Fraser	15
R A Bunting b Fraser	0
Extras (b 7, w 6, nb 1)	14
Total (10 wickets, 56 overs)	183

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-30, 3-117, 4-122, 5-138, 6-155, 7-182, 8-182, 9-182.

BOWLING: Embury 11-0-26-1, Williams 11-0-21-2, Hughes 11-0-29-1, Fraser 11-0-38-3, Embury 11-0-26-1.

MIDDLESEX

W N Slack b Embury	19
J D Carr not out	34
A R C Fraser not out	11
Extras (w 10, lb 0)	10
Total (1 wicket, 22 overs)	62

FALL OF WICKET: 1-55.

BOWLING: M W Gatting, K R Brown, R A Boucher, P R Downing, J E Embury, N P Williams, S P Hughes and N G Cowans to bat.

Umpires: D J Constant and J H Hampshire.

Disruptions all round

The depression Low U, which ruined many a Bank holiday weekend outing, lingered over the country yesterday to disrupt the second round of Benson and Hedges Cup games (Geoffrey Wheeler writes).

Three failed to start - Combined Universities v Somerset, Minor Counties v Worcestershire and Scotland v Leicestershire - which was particularly galling for the county championship sides, who will not want to settle for a no-result game if they can possibly help it.

They have another chance today of course, weather permitting, and the umpires can order a match of shorter than the usual 55 overs-a-side, if they think it results can be obtained.

After waiting until 3.30 to make a start at Trent Bridge, Nottinghamshire were able to bowl just three overs at York-shire before bad light, a hail

storm and further rain finished play for the day with Yorkshire eight without loss.

Derbyshire, who put Warwickshire in at Derby, soon found their bowlers operating with a wet ball and one wicket run-ups after a series of heavy showers. Lloyd and Moles put on 66 for the first wicket before Lloyd fell to Mortensen for 36.

Other scoreboard

Notts v Yorkshire

TRENT BRIDGE Nottinghamshire won the toss.

YORKSHIRE

M D Mason	0
A M Metcalfe	0
Total (no wickets, 3 overs)	0

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: R T Robinson, B C Broad, D W Bates, J E Embury, N P Williams, S P Hughes and N G Cowans to bat.

Umpires: R Julian and D O Dale.

GOLF

Douglas tries repeat of winning ploy

By Yuri Matishchen

Kiruna Douglas, a West Country professional, is bent on an old winning formula to inspire her to success in the £50,000 EMS Masters tournament which begins at Quinta da Marinha, near Lisbon, today.

An early practice round at St Germain two months before the event helped Douglas to victory in last year's Hennessy Cognac Cup, so she drove from the Algarve to Quinta da Marinha in January to do her homework for this week's tournament. "It made all the difference getting to know the course in France," she said.

Victory for Douglas would complete the second leg of a rare double - she won the Portuguese amateur crown in 1983.

At the other extreme, Janice Arnold, from New Zealand, found herself red-faced when she arrived at the course for her first European tournament of the season. The former New Zealand amateur champion had already played a practice round at Estoril five miles down the road. It was only after comparing her yardages that she discovered she had played the wrong course.

Taylor defies his reputation to prove the saviour again

By John Woodcock

THE OVAL (Surrey won the toss): Surrey, with nine wickets in hand, need 64 runs to beat Kent.

Just enough time was lost to the weather at the Oval yesterday for Kent and Surrey to need to return there today to finish their Benson and Hedges tie. Surrey should win. Needing 246, they were 182 for one with 10 overs in hand when play ended last night.

Although Surrey held the advantage, the feature of the day was a splendid innings by Neil Taylor, who opened the Kent innings. Having survived an awkward morning, on which the ball moved off the seam, his batting was in a different dimension from anything else Kent could manage. When their time came to bowl they did look pretty ordinary, on a pitch that was getting ever better for batting.

In view of his reputation, Taylor is having an extraordinary week. Against Hampshire on Sunday he scored a fast and furious 68, which had much to do with Kent winning a game from now on. Yesterday his 137 came in 146 balls. Yet not long ago there was no place for him in the Kent side in one-day games because he was a sledge.

Perhaps he is on the road to Damascus, and finding that

with his physical advantages (6ft 1in, 13st 10lb) it can be a more rewarding game putting bat to ball. Two who were thus converted to their own inestimable benefit, were Bob Barber, of Lancashire, Warwickshire, and England, and Warden Dennis Silk, of Radley College, Cambridge, and Somerset. Suddenly, Kent's bowling was being pushed back to the bowler where hit back over his head. In his reincarnation Barber made 185 against Australia at Sydney. Crashing the ball around as he did yesterday, Taylor could go some way.

Having lost the toss and being put in, Kent were wholly indebted to him for reaching what, for a long time, would have seemed a highly improbable score. At 2 p.m., three hours after the game had been due to start, they were 50 for two in the 28th over, the players having been driven in more than once by passing clouds. As the weather improved through the afternoon so Taylor played some really resounding strokes.

At the other end, no one could get going. Tavernier, with a fit bug on him, took 13 overs to reach double figures, and when eventually Taylor was fifth out, caught at mid-on off a skier, he had scored all but 45 of the runs to have come off the bat. Of the

Surrey bowlers Greig was the best (what a useful cricketer he still is). Clarke was curiously unimpressive and Bullen, with his off breaks, unfortunately expensive.

It was not Smith but Clinton who led the way in Surrey's reply. He reached 50 out of 74, Kent's bowling becoming progressively less controlling.

KENT

M R Benson b Greig	6
N R Taylor c Clarke b Peters	137
S G Hinks c Lynch b Greig	26
T J Turner c Smith b Fothergill	28
C S Cowdrey c Clarke b Fothergill	4
R G Cowdrey c Ward c Clarke	17
R A Marsh b Greig	4
R M Ellison c Richards b Clarke	17
Penn not out	0
R J Davis not out	0
Extras (b 12, w 5)	18
Total (10 wickets, 55 overs)	245

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-31, 2-57, 3-150, 4-182, 5-198, 6-207, 7-238, 8-242.

BOWLING: Clarke 11-0-32-2, Peters 11-0-44-1, Greig 11-0-28-2, Fothergill 11-0-42-2, Bullen 5-0-48-0, Lynch 6-0-42-0.

SURREY

G S Clinton not out	54
D M Smith b Ellison	59
A J Stewart not out	22
Score (10 wickets, 55 overs)	17
Total (10 wickets, 45 overs)	182

FALL OF WICKET: 1-138.

BOWLING: M A Litch, D M Ward, J C Richards, J A Hinks, and M A Fothergill, S T Clarke and N H Peters did not bat.

Umpires: D E Evans and R Palmer.

Charterhouse routed

Schools cricket by George Chesterton

In their first school match of the season, Charterhouse put their visitors, Bradford, in to bat. The highlight of this innings was the stand of 40 for the eighth wicket by Lauder and Garwood. Charterhouse, after opening the attack for Bradford, had five Charterhouse bowlers for 18, and Pearce, a left-arm, 4 for 25 to give them a convincing 79 run victory.

Harrow got their season off to a good start, beating Winchester by 123. Harrow declared on 303 with Kays, the captain, 119 not out, playing a mature, well-constructed innings. Winchester were all out for 78 with Barnes taking 4 for 8 with his left arm Chinamen.

Radley were put in on a slow wicket by Wellington. Lowry and Jardine-Brown hit them out of early trouble and at last they were 120 for six. After the

interval the remaining four wickets added 34. For Wellington, Hodgson and Blomfield found runs hard to come by particularly when Powell, bowling slow left arm, settled into a rhythm. He took seven for 51, but Wellington managed to hold on for a draw on 130 for nine, the last pair surviving seven overs together.

Glenalmond, having had to move their local derby match with Strathallan from July to April, enjoyed a 67-run victory. Glenalmond were put in and took their score to 223 for five. Brown and Wilson made respectively 78 and 77. Adam batted well for Strathallan in reply, making 68, particularly so as he had a damaged hand, but Strathallan could not hold out against the spin of Crowe and John and they were bowled out for 156.

TENNIS

Evert returns to scene of her worst defeat

From Barry Wood, Rome

Chris Evert has returned this week to the scene of perhaps her greatest defeat, at the Italian Open championships in the Foro Italico stadium. It was there, in 1979, that she conceded her 125th defeat, a traumatic event on clay to Tracy Austin in the semi-finals. Although she has played in the Italian championship since, that was at another site in Perugia.

"That was an historical match and I remember there were only about 500 people watching," recalled Evert. "It was like a quieting match as far as the people knew. I felt the pressure then and the loss was pretty devastating. I've had big losses since, but not like that."

She then handed Martina Navratilova a traumatic defeat in Houston 10 days ago, following her victory over her great rival in the semi-finals at the Australian Open in January. She believes that Navratilova took the loss too badly because it was a major hiccup in her desire to regain the No. 1 ranking from Steffi Graf.

"I think she is pretty obsessed with regaining the No. 1 spot, that's the most important thing to her right now," Evert said. "She is looking at every alternative, whether it's the rackets or the coaches or the trainers or the nutritionalists. She is looking for the edge and providing herself with advisers. But Steffi doesn't have five people around her and nor does Sabatini, and I think the answer has to come from within."

However, as Navratilova approaches the challenge of winning Wimbledon for a record ninth time, eclipsing the achievement of Helen Williams, Evert believes that she is equal to the task.

"The record could put pressure on her and a lot depends on how she does at the French Open," said Evert. "I think she got really motivated last year because she lost the French, and you'd still have to say that her serve-and-volley game makes her the favourite."

Short circuit

Monte Carlo (Reuters) - Boris Becker, twice Wimbledon champion and still only 20, wants to reduce his commitment to the Grand Prix circuit to just 10 tournaments a year.

Bloom has a surprise for Jaite

New York (Reuters) - Martin Jaitte was defeated by Gilad Bloom, of Israel, 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 in the first round of the Tour of Champions at Forest Hills yesterday.

Bloom, aged 21, who has had little success on clay, called for a grudge match with Jaitte, one of the top players in the world on the surface, "by far the best" win of his career.

Bloom outplayed Jaitte, the world No. 12, from the baseline and scored consistently with perfectly placed drop shots. The Israeli Davis Cup team member, on leave from the army, was also far more effective when forced to leave the back court. The only other seed to fall on the cold, wet and windy opening day was Johan Kriek, who lost to Simon Voul, of Australia, 6-7, 6-4, 7-5. Andre Gomez, the defending champion, played his usual steady clay court baseline game to eliminate Bruno Ojeda, of Yugoslavia, 6-2, 6-4.

It's probably the best I hit the ball so far this year," Gomez said.

Before rain halted play, Eliot Teltscher, Luis Mattar, Kelly Evernden, Milan Srejber and Thomas Muster all advanced

ATHLETICS

Olympic decision taken out of selectors' hands

Priscilla Welch, the British record holder, has passed personal judgement on the British selectors' decision not to select her for the Seoul Olympics on the merit of her performance in the Boston Marathon by withdrawing from contention for the third available place.

Welch and her husband-coach, David, are known to be furious about the British Amateur Athletic Board's decision, even though it insisted that the London Marathon was the official Olympic trial and two of three places would be offered to the leading Britons in that race.

Welch, who has lived in the United States for the last two years, had warned the selectors in advance that she would run in Boston, as it was considerably closer to her home in Colorado.

Tony Ward, a BAAB spokesman, said: "The BAAB has heard from David Welch. Priscilla's husband and coach, that he was withdrawing her from Olympic contention. He said he was doing this after learning of the BAAB's selectors' decision to announce the third place in Britain's marathon squad on June 24.

"This now leaves the place open to either Veronique Manot or Paula Fudge, who will be required to show fitness and form by running a half-marathon prior to June 24."

JOHANNESBURG: A Johannesburg lawyer said yesterday he had received instructions from the BAAB to investigate all the activities of Zola Budd during a visit to her native South Africa last year. (Reuters reports). Gerald Stuart said he would report by May 10 on whether Budd took part in any way in any sports event in South Africa.

SAN DIEGO: A judge has reduced bail for David Jenkins, the 1972 British Olympic silver medal winner, from \$500,000 to \$230,000 and postponed sentencing until October 11. (AP reports). Jenkins is awaiting sentencing for his admitted role in a multi-million-dollar steroid smuggling ring. Jenkins has pleaded guilty to single counts of conspiracy to defraud the Government, holding counterfeit steroids for sale, introducing mislabeled steroids into commerce and receiving anabolic steroids.

SAN DIEGO: A judge has reduced bail for David Jenkins, the 1972 British Olympic silver medal winner, from \$500,000 to \$230,000 and postponed sentencing until October 11. (AP reports). Jenkins is awaiting sentencing for his admitted role in a multi-million-dollar steroid smuggling ring. Jenkins

**TSURE;
place**

BOXING

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

ote: £14.30; £2.80, £1.70.
8.90, £3.30. DF: £32.40. CSF:
90.68. Tricast: £1,530.22.

6.30 (5f) 1. Gummaster (P
Cook, 3-1); 2. Pastoral Jem (9-
fav); 3. Lady Tap (6-1). 9
an. sh hd, 2l. N Vigors. Tot:
3.20; £1.10, £1.60, £1.60. DF:
3.50. CSF: £9.00

UEFA decision will upset British clubs

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

UEFA yesterday took a decision which will dramatically change European and especially British football. In limiting the number of "foreign" players who may represent clubs in the three Continental competitions, the governing body imposed restrictions which could stifle the progress of players in Ireland and Wales.

As from next season, any club entering Europe may choose in its squad no more than four individuals who are not qualified to play for the national side. If Liverpool were competing in the European Cup, for example, they would have to field at least seven Englishmen in their line-up.

The repercussions are so profound — as well as confusing — that UEFA's executive committee has offered a three-year moratorium. Foreigners already registered will count as natives, as long as they stay with their present clubs until the season which ends in 1991, the year players will have

freedom of movement in line with European Community legislation.

The timing is not coincidental. UEFA, aware that the rich clubs would then become increasingly and unreasonably powerful, has retained the national football barriers that were about to be dismantled. The president, Jacques Georges, admitted at the end of a meeting at St Andrews that "we want to bring back equality".

The aim is likely to be achieved in England. The outstanding talent in the League, condensed within no more than a handful of clubs, is sure to be spread. The likes of Liverpool, Everton and Arsenal will no longer be so interested in acquiring as many Welsh and Irish internationals.

So where lies the destiny of Mark Hughes, the Welshman sold by Manchester United to Barcelona two years ago and now on loan to Bayern Munich? Hughes' heart belongs to Old Trafford but, unless

Whiteside (Northern Ireland) and McGrath (Republic of Ireland), among others, are allowed to leave, Manchester United can purchase Hughes only as a short-term prospect. He would be viewed in the same way by all of the leading clubs in England and Europe.

Georges said: "We want to defend national teams and to protect the interests of the youth."

England and Bobby Robson are likely to benefit eventually from the committee's decision but the consequences for Scotland and particularly for Wales, Northern Ireland and Eire, whose players are all scattered across the Football League and western Europe, are potentially grave.

Georges, asked if the British case might be regarded as unique, agreed that the United Kingdom was one country. "But you have four football associations," he said — and, with a smile — "four votes in UEFA."

Much depends on the response to the new rule. If clubs

decide that domestic titles are more appealing than Continental honours, they could continue to reinforce their home challenge with foreign imports and, whenever necessary, field inexperienced youngsters in European cups which would inevitably be devalued.

If the spirit of the law is followed widely and strictly, no clubs will be affected more than the English. Although they are still banished from Europe, they cannot afford to delay their preparation for the season in which they are permitted by UEFA to return.

The transformation will be alarmingly extensive. Consider the last two English teams to reach a European final. Only five of the Everton side that won the Cup Winners' Cup by beating Rapid Vienna in Rotterdam in 1985 were English (Stevens, Mountfield, Steven, Reid and Bracewell).

Howard Kendall would have had to dispense with two of his foreigners (Southall, Ratcliffe and Van den Hauwe, of Wales, Gray and Sharpe, of Scotland, and Sheedy, of the Republic of Ireland).

The case of Liverpool is even more stark. Joe Fagan picked only two of his fellow-Englishmen, Neal and Walsh, for the fateful European Cup final in the Heysel stadium three years ago. He would have had to omit five "foreigners" from a list that included Grobbelaar (Zimbabwe), Beglin, Whelan and Lawrenson (Republic of Ireland), Nicol, Hansen, Wark and Dalgligh (Scotland) and Rush (Wales). He would also have been unable to use Gillespie (Scotland) as a substitute.

Glasgow Rangers, who were knocked out of the quarter-final of the European Cup this season, were assisted by five Englishmen, Graeme Souness, their player-manager, who was intending to buy more players from south of the border, must now reconsider his long-term plans; so, too, will every other manager who holds any ambitions of taking his club into Europe.

Kingsley Black, the central figure in the public dispute last week between Bobby Robson and Billy Bingham, might have been persuaded by Ray Harford, his manager at Luton Town, to choose to represent England rather than Northern Ireland.



Classic pretender: Unfamiliar, ridden by Willie Carson, passed yesterday's Derby trial with flying colours, streaking home eight

lengths clear of his field in the Dalham Chester Vase. The Dick Hern-trained colt, who two weeks ago won the Warren Stakes at Epsom by

15 lengths, has hardened to 5-2 favourite with Ladbrokes for the Derby on June 1. Michael Seely's report is on page 44

W Indies agree to bowl 90 overs a day in Test series

By Andrew Langmore

The West Indian touring team will fully abide by the International Cricket Conference (ICC) ruling on over-rates for this summer's five-Test series against England, Jackie Hendricks, the tour manager, said yesterday at his team's first press conference.

The series will be the first which has been subject to the ICC proposal accepted last year that 90 overs a day should be compulsory in Test cricket. On their last tour of England, in 1984, West Indies refused to play to an over limit, and given that they, with six fast bowlers in their 17-man party, will bowl at roughly the same rate again (13 overs an hour), there would be roughly an hour's extra play each day. But Hendricks said his team would do its best to fit in the overs in the allotted time.

"It's not going to be easy, but we bowled 82 overs a day in India recently. A lot of our players have experience of county cricket so they know the ropes. Besides, no one likes to do overtime without pay."

"We will fully abide by the laws laid down by ICC. I hope the weather will permit us to bowl the right number of overs. We will try our best to do so," Viv Richards, the West Indies captain, added.

Both Hendricks and Richards will be aware that after cricket's winter of dissent, the manner in which this summer's series is played will be almost as important as the result; but neither anticipated any problems yesterday.

"I sincerely hope that there will be no problems," Hendricks said. "I can't lay down any disciplinary code, but if something does arise on the field that brings the game into disrepute, then action would obviously have to be taken."

"We like to think that the West Indies have always accepted the decisions of umpires, but things do happen in the heat of the moment and they have to be put into context."

Richards admitted that it would be a lot harder to keep

up the record of the last two series against England this time. His side has not won any of its last four series, but, as he was quick to point out, it has not lost any either.

"We have a lot of hard work to do. We are in the process of rebuilding and have a lot of young lions to add to the old guard. My job is to keep the West Indian team on the pinnacle and I personally feel that if we get the breaks we need we could come up trumps this summer," Richards said.

Among the new faces to England were Keith Arthurton, a left-hand bat from the tiny island of Nevis, Ian Bishop, a tall and experienced fast bowler from Trinidad, Curly Ambrose, an even taller fast bowler from the Leeward Islands, and the diminutive wicketkeeper, David Williams.

But, of the newcomers, Phil Simmons and Carl Hooper might prove to be the best-known by the end of the summer.

British clubs voice fears

By Ian Ross and Roddy Forsyth

Colin Harvey, the Everton manager, reacted angrily to UEFA's ruling, saying he believed it to be "heavily weighted" against English clubs. "I do not think that many of the leading clubs in England and Scotland will find it acceptable," Harvey said.

"I just cannot understand it at all. Obviously, we will not be able to see the full effect until we know exactly which clubs have qualified for the three major European competitions."

"I think that most people are aware that the vast majority of the successful English clubs do include players from Ireland, Wales and Scotland. It doesn't sound fair. It would appear to be heavily weighted against English clubs in particular. The main thing from my point of view is to qualify first — then I shall worry about it."

His sentiments were echoed by Jim Greenwood, the Everton secretary, who said he could foresee massive opposition to the controversial move.

"We will need a good deal

more information," Greenwood ventured. "But there is no doubt that this would prove to be a disaster from the point of view of clubs like Everton, Liverpool and Manchester United. If the legislation is allowed to stand, it could mean our top clubs having to take on the best in Europe with a side made up of reserves."

Aberdeen's vice-chairman, Ian Donald, said: "We'd be unhappy if we had to restrict the number of English players we could use. We've been looking closely at England recently and until lately we had four men from south of the border on our books. The compensation might be that there could be a bigger share of Scottish players left for Scottish teams. In any case, it seems that the EC rules on freedom of movement would contradict UEFA."

Jack McGinn, Celtic's chairman, said: "There are so many possible difficulties in applying a nationality rule in the British Isles. We have players here, like Mick McCarthy, born in Barnsley, and Chris Morris, from Newquay,

who play in Scotland and appear for the Republic of Ireland. It's a rule which could be a joke once anyone tries to make it stick here."

● The players listed below would qualify as "foreign" in present first-team squads if the UEFA ruling was applied today.

ABERDEEN: P. Nicholas (Wales), T. Jones (Eng).
CARDIFF: M. Ford, J. Gilling, S. McDonald, M. Kelly, K. Barnett, N. Pinner, P. Wendenham (Eng), G. Wood (Scot).
CELTIC: P. Bonner, M. McCarthy, M. Morris, P. O'Leary (Ire), A. McGilchrist, A. Ross (Ire).
EVERTON: N. Southall, K. Riedel, P. van den Hauwe (Wales), G. Sheedy (Ire), G. Sharp, J. Wilson (Scot).
LIVERPOOL: B. Grobbelaar (Zim), J. Beglin, F. Whelan, K. Hansen, J. Lawrenson (Ire), S. Nicol, G. Gillespie, A. Hansen, K. MacDonald, K. Dalgligh (Scot), J. Moffat (Scot).
LUTON: A. Dible (Wales), A. Grimes (Ire), M. Donaghy, G. Wilson, K. Black (Ire), A. Whalley (Wales), G. Hogg (Scot), G. Hogg (Scot), G. Hogg (Scot), G. Hogg (Scot).
MANCHESTER UNITED: P. McGrath, L. O'Brien, K. Moran (Ire), G. Blackmore (Wales), G. Sheedy (Ire), G. Hogg (Scot), J. O'Brien (Ire).
NOTTINGHAM FOREST: G. Fleming (Ire), B. Rice (Scot), H. Rogers (Wales).
QUEEN'S PARK Rangers: A. McDonald (Ire), J. Byrne (Ire), D. Pinner (Ire), B. Law (Wales).
RANGERS: J. Buchan, J. Phillips, G. Roberts, F. Wilson, G. Wood (Ire), A. Cohen (Ire), J. Nichol (Ire), J. Barrow (Ire).
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY: L. Sanchez (Ire), W. Richardson (Ire), M. Morris, D. Wright, J. Hamilton, J. Sowden, M. Carter, G. Kinnear, R. Ross, G. Hunter, J. Cooke (Dominica).

Lifting of ban depends on Moynihan

By Stuart Jones

Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, holds the fate of English clubs in his hands. As the Government's representative, it is within his powers to advise UEFA's executive committee next week to prolong the European ban, imposed after the tragedy at the Heysel stadium in 1985.

At the end of the committee's meeting at St Andrews yesterday, Jacques Georges, president of UEFA, confirmed that the ban would not be lifted next season without the British Government's consent. He is to meet Moynihan, who recently stated that "we are not yet ready to return", on May 14.

Bert Millichip, chairman of

the Football Association, and Philip Carter, president of the Football League, will also attend the discussion after the FA Cup Final, but Moynihan's words will be the most decisive. The Minister has already been responsible for the postponement of UEFA's decision, which had been expected, albeit with conditions attached, in Scotland.

UEFA will observe the behaviour of England's supporters in Switzerland at the end of the month and particularly during the European championship in West Germany in June before announcing it. The committee, though comforted by the measures taken to suppress hooliganism in England,

is still concerned about the export of drunken thugs.

"What happens in England is England's problem," Georges said. "The travelling hooligans are the most important thing. We must protect people on the Continent. That means that your government must be prepared to control the methods of transport, such as boats and ferries. If it isn't, what can we do?"

"UEFA does not depend on your government but, for the sake of safety and security, we cannot organize matches without its help. That is why it is so necessary to have a talk with the Minister as well as the national representatives of your game."

Georges said that none of the foreign federations, asked if they would be prepared to stage ties against English clubs, had responded with a negative answer. But European governments were not so convinced.

He confirmed that Wimbledon are not assured of a place in the Cup-Winners' Cup next season, even if the ban is lifted and even if they are beaten in the FA Cup Final. "Liverpool cannot enter the European Cup because they are suspended for a further three years," he said. "The only precedent for runners-up playing in the Cup-Winners' Cup has been if the winners are in the Champions Cup."

Anger at Wembley crowd trouble

By Keith Macklin

Angry Rugby League officials are to ask their counterparts at Wembley for an urgent meeting to discuss the serious crowd problems at Saturday's Silk Cut Challenge Cup final. Supporters have bombarded the League's headquarters and the two clubs, Halifax and Wigan, with complaints following the scenes before, during and after the match, which was attended by a crowd of 94,237, paying record receipts of £1.1 million.

Hundreds of supporters who had purchased seats were forced to sit in the gangways, and there was an overspill on to the greyhound track and perimeter of the ground. This caused problems at the end of the game when these people rushed onto the pitch and joined in the lap of honour by the Wigan players, upsetting the players by jumping at them and generally making a nuisance.

David Howes, the public relations officer of the League, said: "We are unhappy because our first priority is to look after the paying spectators. This is our sixth capacity crowd at Wembley and we want to know just how these particular problems arose. We have had nothing like this before at Wembley."

The Wigan chairman Maurice Lindsay said: "A company as large as Wembley, used to organizing and running major sporting events

and concerts should be efficient enough to prevent schoolboy errors like these."

Some Wigan supporters have complained to the Central Park club of tickets being duplicated.

● Widnes, the champions, will stage a professional sprint race before Sunday's Premiership semi-final against Warrington. This will be sponsored by the brewers Greenall Whitley with £1,500 for the winner and £500 for the runner-up.

● The Oldham manager, Eric Fitzsimons, who has guided the club to promotion and the second division title in his first season, will meet the board tonight for talks on his future. His one-year contract expires on July 5 and Fitzsimons, an Oldham schoolteacher, is hoping for an extension.

"To me, the Oldham job is the most important one in the game," he says. "And I will be listening to what the directors have to say about their plans for going up to the first division."

Oldham have already offered contracts to Australian players, Noel Cleal and Steve Ella, but officials are still waiting for replies.

Money on the back of British success

Britain's three equestrian teams going to the Seoul Olympics will run up a bill of £450,000. The financial details were revealed at the announcement yesterday of a two-year £60,000 sponsorship deal for the three-day event team. Showjumping and dressage are the other two disciplines.

The backing, by ICI Films, will help support the team, who are the world and

European champions, in their attempt to go one better than the silver medal position they achieved at the Los Angeles Olympics.

It represents, however, only a portion of the overall costs of sending British squads in search of Olympic and international success, according to Malcolm Wallace, the director general of the British Equestrian Federation.

Welcoming the deal, Wal-

lace estimated that the cost of sending the three teams to Seoul, with some 20-plus horses, 45 riders and officials, and five tons of freight, could be as much as £300,000.

Another £150,000 was called for in the way of preparation costs. "It makes equestrian sports the most expensive of any of the Olympic sports," he said.

The Seoul costs are being met to some extent by the British Equestrian Olympic

Fund fund-raising activities, with a minimum £150,000 target, plus donations from official equipment suppliers and the Sports Council.

Darwin date

Sydney (Reuters) — Australia will host a four-nation men's hockey tournament in July, involving the Dutch, New Zealand and Australian national and under-21 teams and the Indian under-21 team.

FISA award

Paris (Reuters) — A \$94,000 (about £50,000) prize to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the death of Jim Clark will be awarded to the Formula One motor racing driver showing the greatest talent, self-control, courtesy and fair play towards other drivers and officials this season.

Boy Louw

Cape Town (AFP) — One of South Africa's most famous Rugby Union forwards, Boy Louw, died yesterday, aged 82. Louw, played in 18 internationals for the Springboks.

30-day ban

Cincinnati (Reuters) — Pete Rose, the Cincinnati Reds manager, has been suspended for 30 days for "deliberately shoving" Dave Pallone, the umpire, on Saturday in the National League baseball match against New York Mets.

Wilkie going to Seoul as commentator

David Wilkie, the former Olympic breast stroke champion who was hoping to be chosen to compete for Britain again in Seoul, will instead of being a swimmer there be the principal commentator for TV and Channel Four for all the Games swimming events (Roy Moor writes).

Wilkie said yesterday Tuesday: "I am delighted ITV and Channel Four have given me this wonderful opportunity to go to Seoul. I had been hoping to go to the Games as a swimmer, but now as part of the ITV team I know I shall enjoy it even more."

Sharon Davies, winner of a silver medal at the Moscow Olympic games and who earlier in the year was seriously considering attempting a comeback for Seoul, has also been signed up to be a swimming commentator by a New Zealand company.

Champion in trouble

Mexico City (Reuters) — The World Boxing Council fined Gilberto Román, the super-flyweight champion, after he tested positive for marijuana following a title bout last month.

Román won the title from Sugar Baby Rojas, of Colombia, in a unanimous 12-round decision in Florida, but the council said yesterday that post-contest drug tests had proved positive.

Cram returns

Nice (Reuters) — Steve Cram and Said Aouita will return to the track here on July 10 where they became the first athletes to break the 5min 30sec barrier for the 1,500 meters three years ago. Aouita will again run this distance, but Cram has not yet decided which event he will enter.

SPORT IN BRIEF



MacNeill: no replacement

Shorn squad

There will be no replacement for Hugo MacNeill for the Ireland Rugby Union tour to France next week. Ollie Campbell, the former British Lion outside half, is to join the party in the second week to assist the coach, Jimmy Davidson.

END COLUMN

Selling of a TV vision of sport

By Simon O'Hagan

Television did not invent sport, but it sure as anything put it on the map. Can television also create an event from scratch and sell it both to a live audience as well as to millions of potential viewers around the world? This is the question to which the executives of Turner Broadcasting System (TBS), an American television company based in Atlanta, Georgia, must provide an affirmative answer. It is spending a lot of money convincing people it has a going concern, but somewhere along the line it has to get the money back.

TBS is the power behind the Goodwill Games, a souped-up version of the Olympic Games which brings together the top eight individuals and teams from 22 amateur sports, frees them — and the viewers — of the bother of heats or trials, and pitches them against one another amid as many Olympic-style trappings as can be mustered.

Idealism plus commercialism

The Goodwill Games are something of a modern phenomenon, born as they were of a curious mixture of political idealism — some might say naivety — and hard-headed commercialism. The first Games were held in 1986 in Moscow, as a direct response to the boycotted Olympics of 1980 and 1984. The diplomatic element was as important as the sporting one. The Games were, in the organizers' words, "an extraordinary vision of international goodwill" which did nothing less than mirror the rapprochement between Reagan and Gorbachev.

The Moscow Goodwill Games attracted more than 3,000 athletes from 79 countries, with the Americans and the Russians in the fore. Six world records were broken. And in the 100 metres Ben Johnson beat Carl Lewis for the gold medal. Was the rest of the world holding its breath as it was in Rome last year? Hardly. And something must have gone wrong somewhere, because they lost \$26 million on the venture.

Next time — in Seattle in 1990 — they are determined to get it right, and you cannot fault them for effort. On Monday, as part of a conference in which athletes and officials around the world were linked by satellite, TBS signed in Moscow an agreement with the Russian state committee for physical culture and sport and the Russian state committee for television and radio, ensuring the game's place in the international sports calendar right through to 1998. Seattle is expected to be followed by Leningrad, in 1994, before the Games return to the United States once more.

Great powers are in harmony

Crucially, the United States Olympic Committee, which opposed the Games in 1986, is now lending its support. The title format of the Goodwill Games is thought to be as much a threat to the Olympic ideal of simply taking part. Meanwhile, Seattle is all geared up for 1990, and although television will be king, anything less than capacity audiences will be regarded as a disappointment. Motoball, a form of football on motorbikes, has wisely been dropped from the programme.

For the Russians, the Games provide a fine opportunity to demonstrate the spirit of *glasnost*. For TBS, which owns the sole broadcasting rights to the Games, the challenge is a marketing one. Will enough countries, through their national, satellite and cable television stations, buy enough airtime to generate the advertising that makes the money that will keep TBS happy?

With the might of TBS's marketing men behind them, the Goodwill Games should sell. At this stage, though, nobody can pretend that they can share the same status as even a rather battered Olympics — or cheating Italians notwithstanding — the world athletics championships.

At the heart of the Goodwill Games' admirable concept there is a catch-22 situation. The Games must succeed both in the sporting and commercial sense if they are to justify the organizers' claims of promoting world harmony. But if they are a success they leave themselves open to political exploitation. A boycotted Goodwill Games would be the supreme irony.

More tennis, Page 46